

All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

The Magazine



June—July 2024

Revd. Vicky Commissioned as Rural Dean for Wirral South

The Bishop of Birkenhead, The Right Reverend Julie Conalty, and Archdeacon Mike Gilbertson came to All Saints' Church to commission Revd. Vicky as Rural Dean and Revd. John Coyne of Burton and Shotwick as Associate Rural Dean on 17th April.



It was a beautifully sunny evening for the congregation of some 60 people from across the Deanery. Bishop Julie led the service and celebrated Holy Communion. Archdeacon Mike gave an encouraging sermon, and managed to make reference to a recent feature involving a

baptism at All Saints' in "OK" magazine.

There was much cheerful conversation over refreshments afterwards in the Parish Hall.

Celebration

Revd. Vicky Barrett has been our vicar for five years (she was instituted as vicar on May 16th 2019).

On Sunday 19th May, Vicky hosted a party in the Parish Hall, to which everyone was invited, to celebrate this occasion. It was a wonderful afternoon and a time of great joy and laughter. We are so grateful to Vicky for her friendship and loving leadership of our church and are inspired by her preaching, enthusiasm, and care for all.

We thank God for bringing Vicky to our church and for His continuing support of her ministry at All Saints'. And we look forward to the next five years and beyond...



Welcome letter from the Vicar

A Leap of Faith

As I write this introduction, I am wondering why on earth I was persuaded to take part in an abseil down the side of a building at Arrowe Park Hospital in two days' time. In cassock and surplice!

It's going to be a way to raise publicity for the work of the Wirral University Teaching Hospitals Charity, which helps to provide additional creature comforts for patients in Arrowe Park and Clatterbridge Hospitals.



It's also a reminder that there are times when you take a leap of faith. In this instance, the reassurance is that I will be wearing a harness and have a system of ropes and people to help me down. However, there is no doubt that I will feel a definite sense of jeopardy, especially in that moment when I step off the top of the building and place my trust in those ropes.

There are times in life when we also take leaps of faith: when a couple choose to commit to one another in marriage, those moments when we take on a new job (see the piece about my commissioning as Rural Dean!), when we entrust ourselves or a loved one to surgery, or even when we are taking off in an aeroplane and see the ground gradually slip further away beneath us.

We put faith in our own past experience and learning, in the expertise of others. We have faith that the lights will come on when we press a switch, that fresh water will pour from the tap.

These are indeed wonderful things, and we do well not to take them for granted. In these times when so many people are without homes due to war, natural disasters and exploitation, we see a powerful reminder of the need for a leap of faith that the world can be different.

This is where prayer can work to bring about real change. Even if you don't see yourself as "the praying type," try taking your concerns to God, and see what happens. Many people would consider it a leap of faith to come to a church when they have never been before. The whole experience can be very alien. The writer of the letter to the Hebrews comments, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Where do we find our hope? Are you ready to take a leap of faith?

With love and blessings

Vicky

The Annual Meetings on 12th May 2024

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners

The Vicar, Revd Vicky Barrett, opened the meeting in prayer and with a reading from Psalm 65 verses 8 to 13 – the Harvest Hymn.

June Allcock and Patsy Baker were elected as the churchwardens for the coming year.

Alan Splitt was stepping down as a Churchwarden and Vicky thanked him for all he had done during his time in office.

She also thanked Alan and June Allcock for all their hard work over the last twelve months, and particularly for their friendship and help when she broke her leg.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The **Financial Report** for 2023 and the **Annual Report** for 2023 had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

The Vicar thanked the Churchwardens, Alan and June, the PCC Treasurer, Iain Stinson, the PCC Secretary, Sue Stinson, the Caretaker, Margaret Gamble (who has recently completed 50 years in the role), the Parish Safeguarding Officer, Linda Arch, The Fabric and Health and Safety Team (June Allcock, Gill Charvill, Richard Singleton and Graham Seagrave), Members of the PCC, The Welcomers and Tim Alan Price, the Lesson Readers, and the Coffee Makers for their part in making things run smoothly. Vicky thanked everyone who contributed to making the church a place of welcome and safety.

The Electoral Roll Officer, Helen Tankard, reported that the Electoral Roll had been revised and stood at 98 (51 residents of the Parish, 47 non-residents of the Parish). Anyone eligible wanting to be added to the roll now could fill in an application form and be added; the revision period was over, and the roll was open again. The **Electoral Roll will be completely revised** in 2025 and next year all wanting to stay on the roll, or be added to the roll, will need to fill out an application form.

The Vicar thanked Sue Stinson and all the contributors to the **Annual Report** for making it so inviting. Pages 3 to 5 set out our Vision for the Parish. This had been worked on throughout 2022 and 2023 and everyone had had an opportunity to feed into it.

2023 was a year of strengthening. Toybox had gone from strength to strength, the Pilgrim course had continued throughout Lent and been well received.

ACF has been ably led by Helen Tankard since returning from lockdown but Helen is now stepping down. She was thanked for all that she had done and presented with a bunch of flowers. A rota has been set up to ensure that the coffee mornings continue but as yet no-one has stepped forward to take on the

running of the afternoon meetings and the last meeting will be the Strawberry Tea in July.

Fabric. The Fabric Team is now functioning well and has been given a new focus. They now have a calendar of tasks that they are working through. A new sink has been installed in the Vicar's Vestry. We have a good relationship with the new Church Architect; she is willing to come and look if we have problems and this is helpful.

Deanery Synod. We now have a new Rural Dean (Vicky).

Helen Tankard was re-elected as a **Parochial Representative of the Laity** to the PCC. There are still vacancies on the PCC and it is hoped that in time new people will be willing to take on this important role

The **Financial Statements** were considered by the meeting. The PCC Treasurer, Iain Stinson, thanked Patsy Baker and Don Harrison for counting the money and Patsy for taking the money to the bank. He also thanked Vicky and Brian Morris for reviewing and authorising payments. Iain invited questions about the accounts – but none were raised. The accounts had been examined by Verity Smith, and she was thanked for undertaking this work. Verity Smith was appointed as the **Independent Examiner** for 2024

On 16th May Vicky will have been our Vicar for five years. She said, "Thank you to all from the bottom of my heart and thank you for helping when my leg was broken".

June Allcock expressed our thanks to Vicky for all that she does. The meeting endorsed this with a round of applause.

The meeting closed at 12:30 with a prayer by John Wesley and the Grace.

Sue Stinson
PCC Secretary



All Saints' Church, Thornton Hough

ACF Summer Strawberry Tea

Wednesday 10th July
at 2.15pm in the Parish Hall

All Welcome Tickets £2



Notes on the PCC meeting held on 16th April and 14th May

In April we heard that Revd Vicky Barrett had been appointed as the next Rural Dean for Wirral South Deanery. The commissioning service was held on 17th April in All Saints' Church. Bishop Julie (the Bishop of Birkenhead) was officiating and The Archdeacon, Mike Gilbertson preached. It was a joyous service and we welcomed people from across the Deanery and beyond. It was good to see so many of our own congregation there to support Vicky.

In April Vicky encouraged us to look at **'Where we are at'**:

Good things. There have been some wonderful responses to services especially through Lent and Holy Week; and some have been very well attended; we have seen a slight uplift in numbers. We are starting to see families attending. In one family there are three generations coming.

We get visitors and people sit outside eating sandwiches; they are highly complimentary and impressed that we are open. Sheena Wilson from the DAC was very impressed when she visited.

The Pilgrim Course has been a success, with up to 12 people participating in this module.

Toybox is attracting families. (19 families with 23 children on the day before the meeting). Children are excited to be there.

There is now worship in all three care homes: Elderholme, Westwood Hall and now Brimstage Manor has resumed having services.

We are taking small steps to address Eco concerns.

The church (and the Vicar) were in OK magazine and the Sunday Mirror after a recent Baptism! The message conveyed by the photos was that "Church is a good and happy place."

Weak points. We haven't managed to find someone to take on ACF. Succession planning is a challenge. There are fewer people taking an active part in running events or being on PCC.

Weight Watchers are no longer meeting in the hall, resulting in a loss of income.

Fabric repairs are draining our resources (we didn't get a grant for the work on the lintel above the door and at the bottom of the steps).

Threats. There is a danger that we are overtaken by the challenges of maintaining the building rather than our missional purpose.

We have an elderly heating system which might cost us money to maintain/ replace. Future fuel costs are an unknown.

There is the threat that we will suffer from burn-out.

Opportunities. With Vicky as the Rural Dean there is an opportunity for more sharing, both formally and informally across the Deanery.

We are in contact with families through the school and through Toybox There is the possibility that more children's parties are booked. Things spread by word of mouth.

More grants could be available.

Growing faith. The Pilgrim Course went down well- we could keep that going.

At the end of another year since the last Annual General Meeting Vicky gave everyone a small pack of seeds to say 'Thank You'. Everyone had different seeds and, just as with germs of ideas, she said that if everyone grew them we would have an interesting mix.

The PCC received a **Financial Report** and heard that the day to day income and expenditure was more or less in line with the budget.

The Fabric Team reported that a new sink and unit were being installed in the Vicar's Vestry (this is now completed), the wall near the cedar tree was causing concern, and the lightning conductor needed to be tested (now done and passed). Work was needed on the spire, and it was agreed to go ahead with the drone survey suggested by the church architect to identify any further problems. (This has now been done). The PCC also gave the go ahead to the work which was needed on the steps and the lintel above the door. In May we heard that work on some trees in the cemetery is going ahead.



In April the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the PCC Secretary were given flowers/ bottles of wine as a thank you for all their work over the past year.

Vicky said a **special thank you to Alan Splitt** for all that he had done during his time as Churchwarden.

Finally in April a huge 'Thank You' was said to Margaret Gamble who had completed 50 years as the Verger and Caretaker. She was presented with two roses, 'Margaret Merrill' and a David Austin rose, 'Golden Celebrations'. She was also given a National Gardens voucher for money collected from the congregation in appreciation for all that she has done

The meeting in May was convened to appoint PCC officers and members of the committees. The PCC and officers are now as follows:

Name		Officers and Committees
Revd Vicky Barrett	Vicar	Chairman of the PCC, Standing Committee Ex officio member of all committees
June Allcock	Churchwarden	Vice Chairman of the PCC, Standing Committee, Finance Committee Fabric Committee Remuneration Subcommittee
Patsy Baker	Churchwarden	Standing Committee, Remuneration Subcommittee,
Iain Stinson	Deanery Synod representative	Treasurer, Standing Committee Finance Committee
Sue Stinson	Deanery Synod representative	PCC Secretary, Standing Committee
Linda Arch	Deanery Synod representative	Safeguarding Officer Standing Committee
Gill Charvill	Representative of the laity	Fabric Committee
Margaret Gamble	Representative of the laity	
Richard Singleton	Representative of the laity	Fabric Committee
Helen Tankard	Representative of the laity	Electoral Roll Officer
Lucinda Russell	Co-opted by the PCC	

Sue Stinson
PCC Secretary

2025 All Saints Church Parish Calendar

We are beginning to work on this calendar now so we hope you have some wonderful photos for us to consider. Please send them to me as an attachment to my email address brimorris@sky.com. The calendar has been very popular for many years and we hope that this edition will continue to raise much needed funds for the church. Thank you Brian Morris.



A Church Fellowship for Everybody

On Wednesday 10th April we welcomed Mark and Stewart from Emmaus to come and tell us about the work that they do.



Mark has been a Minister for 30 years and joined Emmaus 3 years ago as a Support Officer whereas Stewart has experienced homelessness and is now a companion at the hostel based in Seaforth.

Mark started off by reading a passage from Luke 24 verse 31 *“Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him”* and in his talk he hopes to open our eyes to Emmaus and the work they do to help people who have been left with

nothing.

Emmaus began in Paris in 1949 and was founded by Abbé Pierre (he was in the French Resistance and a Catholic Priest) following the devastation caused by the Second World War: he hoped to try and provide homes for those on the streets. The first Emmaus in the UK was opened in 1991 and there are now 30 communities with seven of them being in the North West; there are also 330 others throughout the world. They are also involved in giving back to those in need throughout Europe and have even helped in places such as Ukraine and other disaster areas.

People can become homeless for a number of reasons such as drugs, alcohol, mental health problems, being made redundant or a marriage breakdown. Emmaus offers a hostel which is a refuge supporting people who have nothing and offers to help people survive and get back on their feet. Mark also read a passage from Matthew chapter 25 to highlight that we need to help people in need. Emmaus is not Christian based but Mark now likes to use these Bible passages to reinforce the work that is done especially to Church groups like ACF.

Stewart originally had a full-time job and had been married for 15 years. When his marriage broke down, he ended up on the streets ten years ago. He was pointed in the direction of Emmaus and has been there ever since. In fact, he feels more like a member of staff than a companion.

The hostel in Seaforth is a purpose-built community building which can house 28 people who are referred to as companions. It was opened in June 2016 and the following year they secured some derelict land beside the accommodation which has been turned into a garden. They have their own ensuite room and get three meals per day. All bills are paid and they are provided with essentials such as toiletries and cleaning products.

They are paid £40 per week but are required to work in the charity shops, café, collect donations, work in the garden growing flowers and/or fruit and vegetables, or driving the vans. They can use this money to buy clothes or anything that they need for their room. By working they can also learn new skills such as retail work, hospitality, warehousing, gardening and driving.

They can also get involved in building trades such as plumbing, electricals and woodworking.

Mark played us a video about Emmaus and what it is like to be homeless. On it we heard from a companion whose life was turned around by Emmaus. She described how life on the streets was a lonely, scary experience, especially in the evenings when you are on your own. In the daytime people walk past you looking down on you and you can even be assaulted, spat at or robbed. At times she didn't care whether she lived or died. Through Emmaus she got her life back, met her husband and got married and now has her own home.

When you have been on the streets it gives you empathy to others in need. It gives you hope, but also by being able to work it gives back your self-esteem and respect.

On Wednesday May 8th, 12 ACF members welcomed Hayley and Phil who came to talk to us about **Wirral Hospice St John**.

The hospice was set up in 1983 and provides free care to adults with life-limiting conditions such as cancer, COPD, MND as well as advanced kidney or liver disease. Support is offered not only to the patients but their family and carers as well.

They can provide support in a number of ways:

Inpatient Ward They have a 16-bed ward where patients can be admitted to sort out medication and pain management. They try to provide a home from home environment along with support in a relaxed and happy environment. The patient can then go home if they are able.

Wellbeing Centre This welcomes day patients to receive complementary therapies and counselling as well as learning new hobbies and skills to make their life as normal as possible.

Outpatients Specialist doctors can advise patients on the best course of treatment and any help they may need to allow them to stay at home.

Hospice at Home A team of nurses can look after patients at home, offering practical help such as advice on nutrition and personal care. They can also offer emotional support and do "house sits", allowing loved family members some respite or if they need to go out for appointments/supermarket shopping.

Patient and Family Support Services This can provide a number of services to support patients and their loved ones such as: Counselling, Bereavement support, Occupational therapy and Relaxation and aromatherapy.

Hayley is the Community fundraising Manager and the charity needs £6 million each year for basic running such as nurses' wages; anything else to make the patients more comfortable and "home from home" is extra. Only about 40% is provided through NHS funding; the rest has to be financed through fund raising. They have 10 shops, run a lottery, hold events such as "Light up a Life", get support from school and corporate fundraising and people leaving legacies in their Will.

Phil is the Volunteer Services Manager and looks after about 400 volunteers who help the hospice. If you added up the hours that these volunteers give it would add another £1 million needed to run the charity. The volunteers can help on reception in the hospice, in the shops, gardening and maintenance. They also bake wonderful cakes!

[Forthcoming Afternoon Meetings at 2.15pm in Parish Hall](#)

Wednesday June 12th Wirral Wildlife with Dr Hilary Ash who will speak about the New Ferry Butterfly Park.

Wednesday July 10th Strawberry Tea. More details to follow.

[Next Coffee mornings at 10:30am in Parish Hall](#)

Wednesday June 26th and July 24th.

Raffle and sales table. Entrance 50p

Everyone Welcome

[Future ACF Events](#)

I am standing down from leading the ACF group with effect from Sunday May 12th at the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Unfortunately, as we have been unable to find a team to take over this role, the following changes are going to happen.

The **coffee mornings** will continue from May 22nd on a rota basis of volunteers which has already been established and dates have been filled until the end of the year. The **afternoon meetings** are more difficult to arrange as planning prior to the meeting is involved. Therefore, afternoon meetings will continue until July as follows:

- Linda Arch will host the meeting on 12th June
- The Annual Strawberry Tea will go ahead on 10th July as a church event and a farewell to ACF.
- The meetings scheduled for the autumn have been cancelled and the charities paid the speaker fee of £30.

Helen Tankard

Our Vicar Abseiling

The Wirral University Trust Hospitals (WUTH) Charity raises money to help provide creature comforts for patients and staff at Arrowe Park and Clatterbridge Hospitals. The fund-raisers organise a number of activities and concerts throughout the year. It was out of a conversation with Community and Events Fundraiser Phil Crawford about ideas for Christmas that the thought of joining in the abseil down one of the buildings at the front of Arrowe Park Hospital was raised.

"Go on, Vicky, it'll be great fun! You'll be helping raise the profile of the charity!" And, being drawn to joining in slightly wild adventures for good causes, I filled out the forms and enrolled and as you can see I did it!



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Puzzle Corner

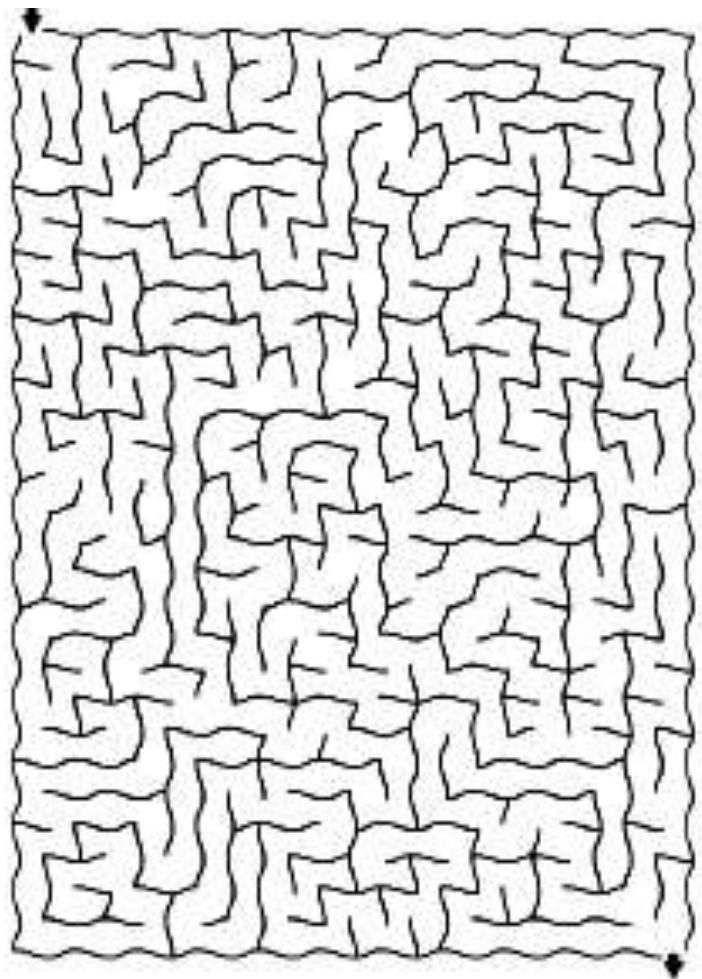
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Sudoku

Fill in all the squares with the numbers 1- 9 using them only once horizontally, vertically and in each block of 9 small squares.

Solution can be found on [Page 31](#)

Can you find your way through this Maze? Solution is on [Page 31](#)



Can you find all the 16 Bible books in this passage?

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. A certain fluke, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others, it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a job. We want it to be a most fascinating little moment for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help find them. I will quickly admit it usually takes the preacher to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how you will compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen books of the Bible in this paragraph and they can be found on [Page 31](#).

Rev William Kendall Gale (1873-1935)

For this edition of our magazine, instead of writing about the origin of hymns, I would like to tell you about an ancestor of mine who was a pioneering missionary in Madagascar in the early part of the 20th Century. He was in fact my 1st cousin twice removed (my maternal grandfather's mother was a Gale).

William Kendall Gale was born in 1873 in Addingham (near Ilkley), Yorkshire, the son of a master stonemason and Methodist preacher.

He was baptised at Mount Hermon Wesleyan Reform Church, as it was then

known, in July 1873. He was educated at Addingham National School, leaving at 15 to work for a Burnley firm. Later he studied in London, and held a pastorate at a Congregational church in Sheffield and returned to Addingham as pastor of Mount Hermon Chapel. In 1905 he

married Edith M Gaunt. In September 1908, he was appointed by the London Missionary Society to Ambohitrolomahisty in Madagascar, to the north east of the capital Antananarivo and left with his wife Edith and two daughters (there were to be three more children born in Madagascar). He spent some time as a chaplain in France during the war but returned to Madagascar in 1918. His pioneering work with some of the degraded tribes in the north dates from this time. Some of the locals were initially hostile, and met him armed with spears and axes. He suffered malaria, black water fever and dysentery. He was shocked by the behaviour of many tribes, including one where every woman in the village had been married to every man.

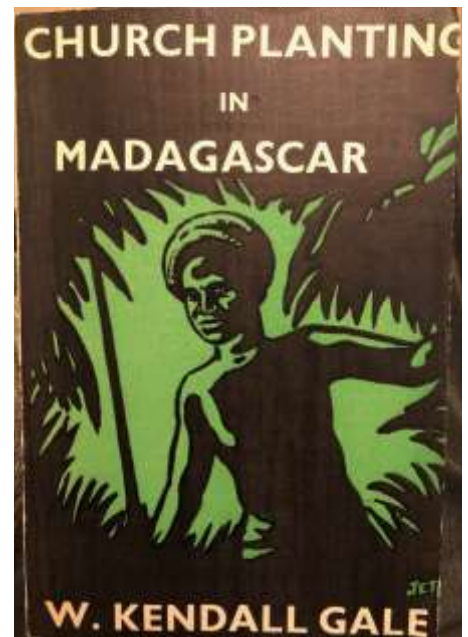
Kendall Gale and his family returned to England every five years and his work gained a following. In 1918 he published his first report of his journey to those Marofotsy, Sihanaka and Bezanozano peoples.



He reports amusingly of sending home for an old 'wind-up' gramophone, and in Bevoay playing many records to the natives, often ones by Harry Lauder. Many were scared, maybe perceiving that it was God himself. Some hid behind bushes, but eventually came around as William explained the workings of the machine and that the man singing lived thousands of miles away.

He established over 250 village churches in Madagascar, plus schools for training teachers. He had intended to retire in 1937, hoping to have established 300 churches. However, he suffered complications from an operation and died in 1935 in Anjozorobe, near Antananarivo. He is thought to have founded more churches than any other London Missionary Society missionary worker.

Kendall Gale wrote an account of his work in Madagascar which was completed and published posthumously by a colleague Dr T Cochrane soon after his death in 1935. It was a small book called 'Church Planting in Madagascar'. Whilst out of print in the 1950's, I was lucky my sister, spotted a copy on eBay which we snapped up about 10 years ago. However the book is now in the public domain and can be downloaded from the site mentioned at the foot of this article. It's a good, if at times distressing read, and contains more photos for which there isn't room here. There are other



material on the web about this wonderful man.

A blue plaque in his honour was unveiled at Mount Hermon Chapel Addingham in September 2011.

Brian Moate

https://missiology.org.uk/book_church-planting-in-madagascar_gale.php

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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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Progress on my 2024 eco journey

On September 1st 2021 the Archbishop of Canterbury, along with Pope Francis and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew issued “A Joint Message for the Protection of Creation”, which ends with the following statements :-

“All of us – whoever and wherever we are – can play a part in changing our collective response to the unprecedented threat to climate change and environmental degradation.

Caring for God’s creation is a spiritual commission requiring a response of commitment. This is a critical moment. Our children’s future and the future of our common home depend on it.”

Our resolve is still holding up as Peter and I continue with our 4 out of 7 vegetarian days per week, being flexible about which these days are to fit in with social engagements and making sure we have absolute minimum food wastage. Sometimes we have to swap days when things go awry. A couple of examples include being out for lunch in a Wirral hostelry with former work colleagues, when my carrot and coriander “soup of the day” arrived as onion soup. (At home I make English Onion Soup with vegetable stock and French Onion Soup with beef stock and I wasn’t at all sure what I had been given.) Not wishing to spoil the occasion, I carried on and resolved that it would have to be a mixed-diet day after all and cooked accordingly that evening. A more amusing example was taking Easter gifts for her grandchildren round to a friend in Italy, who invited us in and, in true Italian style, brought out coffee, liqueurs and pastries. I complimented Gina on her delicious sweet pastry and a recipe exchange followed. My own sweet pastry is made with all butter, hers with all lard, so another new word was added to my Italian vocabulary and another vegetarian catch-up day needed.

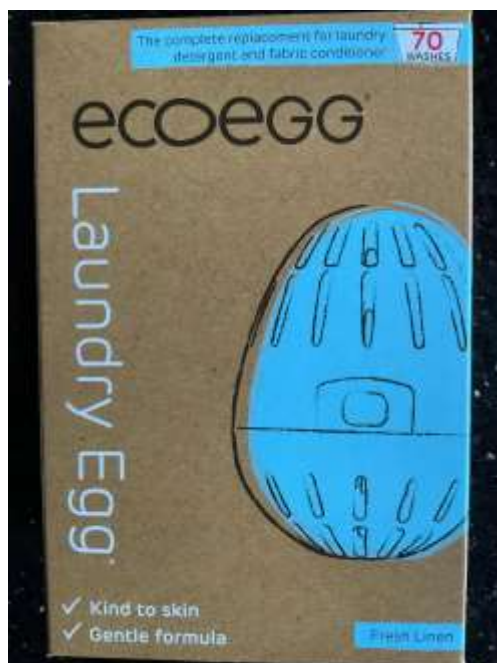
In addition I need to give serious consideration to cheese (because natural rennet is not vegetarian), wine (which could have been filtered through fish skin) and some of my favourite quick Italian dishes (where anchovies are used for seasoning). Nothing is off limits, simply moved to non-veggie days.

The other part of my carbon footprint reduction is a year with no fashion purchases. I really have “shopped in my wardrobe” and discovered several unworn items, including a dress which was a really poor fit. This has gone to a charity shop, where it should be saleable. Trousers that needed shortening have been done either by me or, along with minor alterations that are beyond my skill set, by professionals and I had a new zip put into an old, otherwise serviceable pair of corduroys. My “new” smart casual jacket has emerged from my wardrobe, where it hung for well over a year, complete with labels. Nothing has gone to a charity shop that might end up in landfill.

When the time comes to buy new clothing, I am going to be more discerning. After a Cool Wirral meeting I realise that mixed fibre fabrics cannot be shredded and recycled. This means that a high proportion of worn-out, unloved and unwanted items of clothing end up in landfill and shockingly it seems that some landfill items come directly from the rails of “fast fashion” retailers. According to the World Bank, fashion is responsible for 2 – 10% of global carbon emissions.

Have you challenged your household to reduce their carbon footprint? Do let me know how you are managing. In the next magazine I hope to outline some easy wins to achieve this. However, in the meantime I can share some of the really useful environmental tips that have been passed on to me. (Readers may recognise their contributions!) Please keep the conversations coming.

- ♦ Swapping baths for 4-minute showers – I tried timing myself.
- ♦ Using compostable disposable cups, when using normal crockery isn't practical.
- ♦ “Grow your own”
- ♦ Practising moderation in the consumption of everything.
- ♦ Shunning air-freighted produce – I must try even harder.
- ♦ Replacing laundry powder / liquid / capsules with an Eco egg.



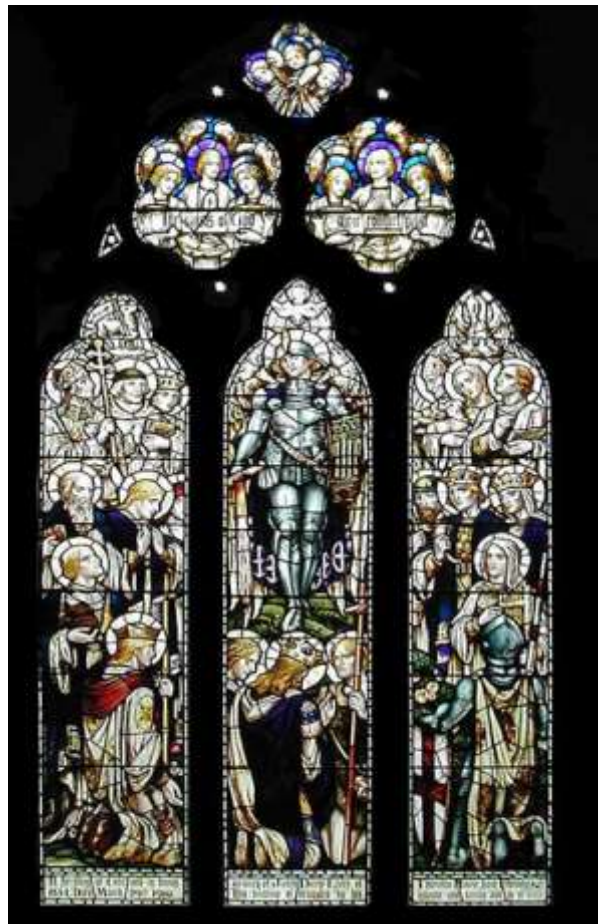
The plastic egg is reusable time and time again, the volume of waste when the “beads” eventually reach the end of their use is tiny, the packaging is all cardboard and paper, so suitable to go in our grey bins and the low weight and small size of the refill packs results in significant carbon reduction related to transport – I have been persuaded!

Linda M Arch

The Windows of All Saints' - Part 1

All Saints Church contains some wonderful stained glass windows, many of which reveal the history of Thornton Hough people, their homes, and their occupations. The window on the right, dedicated to the memory of James Darcy Lever, brother of the first Lord Leverhulme. is in the north transept. It depicts St. Michael the Archangel, in armour and sword, overcoming the evil serpent and surrounded by saints and angels. The window was the gift of his widow Annie Lever and his niece Mary Ethel Dean in 1912. It is the work of Gustav Hillier, a Liverpool artist who may also have been responsible for the magnificent west window, dedicated to local men who gave their lives in the Great War.

James Lever died in 1910 at nearby Thornton House. His widow, Annie, continued to live in the house until she moved away in 1922 and it then passed through several owners before it was divided into three separate residences.



This is the 'Murray Window' and is dedicated to the memory of James Angus Murray and his wife Renée Myrtle Murray who lived in No.1 Thornton House, a picture of which appears on the lower right-hand side of the window.

Renée was born in Alverstoke in Hampshire, She married James in 1945 after her first husband, Maurice Maxwell, was tragically lost when the submarine 'Spearfish' in which he was serving was sunk off the Norwegian coast in August 1940.

She was very active in the church and the village and is especially remembered for her collection of period costumes. Depicted wearing one of her many dresses, apparently she considered various costumes before

settling on this one for her picture, using local ladies as mannequins. Rhona Mayhew, a current member of our congregation, actually modelled for the picture in the window. Renée used to put on fashion shows to raise money for the church.

On the left of the window is Angus. Born in Hull in 1851, his father was from Fife in Scotland – hence the thistle at the top of the left-hand panel. During the 2nd World War he served as an officer in the Lancashire and Cheshire Heavy Royal Artillery (TA) which is acknowledged by their regimental badge in the top panel.



He was a Chartered Accountant and a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants whose coat of arms appear on the left-hand side, above those of the Murray family.

A reader at All Saints' for many years, he is shown standing at the church's lectern, which is still in use today. The then vicar, the Rev Cecil Clark, apparently posed at the lectern and modelled for the picture of James.

Created in 1997 by William Davies a local craftsman who had a studio in Irby, the window was commissioned by Renée after James died aged 81 in 1991. Following his death she moved to a flat in Heswall and sadly passed away in 1995 before the window was finished, so she never actually saw it in place



The artist's trademark is a drawing of the old Irby windmill which appears in the bottom right hand corner of the window.



Angus and Renée are buried together in a relatively modest plot in the Raby Road graveyard. People who remember the couple describe him as a 'perfect gentleman' and her as 'tall, straight-laced, and very kind'.



Gavin Hunter

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OFSTED rates Thornton Hough Primary School “Outstanding”

Children and staff at Thornton Hough Primary School are delighted that OFSTED have judged them to be “Outstanding” after a rigorous two-day inspection in February.

This was the first time the school had been inspected since 2011. The requirements for ‘Outstanding’ status have become much more demanding during that time.

Headteacher Will Lowe said, “We are delighted to have received external recognition of our ‘Outstanding’ provision from OFSTED. We are incredibly proud of the children and the provision we offer and it is testament to all involved: children, staff, parents, governors, everyone in the school community.”

Chair of Governors Geoff Dale thanked the entire Thornton Hough Primary School team on behalf of the whole Governing body. He commented, “Being top primary school in the borough of Wirral and towards the top in the whole country is testament to the hard work and dedication shown by everyone. But the true heart of what we do is ensuring our children are happy and enjoy their education. The amazing pastoral care and life skills developed by the children enable them to flourish.”

The school has also received a letter from the Minister for Schools, Damian Hinds, congratulating them on their “very high standard of achievement” following results in the Key Stage 2 tests in 2023. Thornton Hough Primary is in the top 1 per cent of all primary schools in the country.

Children at Thornton Hough Primary School have much to celebrate, and continue to be happy and successful. Many congratulations from all at All Saints’ Church, where we look forward to welcoming pupils in July as they celebrate another wonderful year and bid farewell to the Year 6 pupils as they move on to the next stage in their education.



POETRY CORNER

Solitude - Alexander Pope (1688-1744)

Happy the man, whose wish and care
A few paternal acres bound,
Content to breathe his native air,
In his own ground.



Country house

Whose herds with milk, whose fields with bread,
Whose flocks supply him with attire,
Whose trees in summer yield him shade,
In winter fire.



Country estate

Thus let me live, unseen, unknown;
Thus unlamented let me die;
Steal from the world, and not a stone
Tell where I lie.

Blest who can unconcern'dly find
Hours, days, and years slide soft away,
In health of body, peace of mind,
Quiet by day,

Sound sleep by night; study and ease
Together mix'd; sweet recreation,
And innocence, which most does please,
With meditation.

This beautifully constructed, charmingly humble little plea for a quiet, happy, contented life, away from the public gaze, may seem rather hypocritical from a man who was notorious for criticising everything and everyone in his witty satires, courting controversy, fame and fortune.

It was written and published in 1700, when Alexander Pope was twelve years old. He was suffering from a tubercular disease which would leave him a 4 ft 6" (1.37 m) hunchback with severe breathing difficulties. Largely self-taught, he revelled in reading the Classics and his first published works were Pastorals, inspired by Greek poetry.

He was a Roman Catholic, and born in 1688, when England's last Roman Catholic king (James II) was replaced by the Protestant William and Mary, and Roman Catholicism was outlawed. No wonder he felt isolated by both his religion and his deformity.



Pastoral scene

Pope observed England and the world of the early 18th century full of diametrically opposed views, which he satirised by pointing out the inconsistencies. After honing his extraordinary skill with verse in his hilarious Essay on Criticism, an exquisite tour de force, he translated Homer's Iliad. which took him 5 years and made him very rich. He later (1733) wrote his equally brilliant but serious *Essay on Man*, which seeks to reconcile the incongruities and contradictions which prevent men from reaching the contentment expressed in *Solitude*.



Homer

He points out the paradoxes of man's life "Born but to die, and reasoning but to err" in rhyming iambic couplets, many memorable, like:

"Hope springs eternal in the human breast
Man never is, but always to be, blest"

He manages to be both optimistic and pessimistic at the same time. He wants to reconcile differences and find the happy medium, because:

On life's vast ocean diversely (*separately*) we sail
Reason the card, (*map*) but passion is the gale.

He shows how vices and virtues can be two sides of the same coin

Lust, through some certain strainers well refin'd
Is gentle love, and charms all womankind.
Envy, to which th'ignoble mind's a slave
Is emulation (*copying*) in the learn'd or brave.

He is full of advice on how to achieve the happy contentment of Solitude, pointing out that caring for others is enlightened self-interest, selfishness and altruism are not incompatible, because "true self love and social are the same," and

Man like the generous vine supported lives
The strength he gains is from the embrace he gives!

The wishes expressed by the precocious 12 year old Pope inform all his mature work, much of which is still thought-provoking and relevant.

Caroline Lancelyn Green



17th Century map



Vines

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An interesting lunchtime...

A few weeks ago, at around lunchtime on a Saturday, Adrian Griffiths, a local musician and organ builder, and his colleague Edward Peak, a professional musician and recording engineer, arrived at All Saints' Church Thornton Hough to record the organ as part of Adrian's "Organs of Wirral" video series.

Adrian talked a little about the history of the church and the organ and about its builder, Norman and Beard. He then played the organ.



So far, three other Wirral organs have been recorded and a separate series featuring the four church organs in Heswall has already been completed.

You can view the All Saints' Church video on YouTube by clicking on the link or typing it into your web browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VWozuC0mKAg>

Cookery Corner

SLOWBURN PAELLA (serves 2 to 3)

Heat a little **Olive Oil** in a large frying pan.

Add half a chopped **Red Onion** and chopped clove of **Garlic** sauté till soft.

Add 25g of sliced **Chorizo**. Sauté 3 or 4 mins till crisp on edges.

Add half teaspoon Turmeric, quarter teaspoon **Paprika** and 60 g **Brown Rice**

Stir well and add 150 mls **Stock** and simmer till almost absorbed.

Add another 150 mls of **Stock** and simmer till drying out.

Add seafood, e.g. 2 sliced **Squid** tubes, **King Prawns**, half a diced **Red Pepper** and **Sea Salt**. Cook for 5 to 8 minutes stirring often. Add a handful of frozen **Peas** for the last 5 minutes.

LEMON MOUSSE

Whisk 3 **Egg Yolks** gradually adding 5 oz **Sugar**.

Mix in grated peel of 2 **Lemons** and juice of 3.

Add 1 sachet of **Gelatine**.

When beginning to set, fold in 3 whipped **Egg Whites**.

Chill & enjoy.



It looks like Spring may have sprung - at last! I hope you are all looking forward to the lighter nights and fingers crossed, warmer weather. I know everyone here at THWI is looking forward to getting out and about and digging the summer clothes out of the wardrobe.

Sue Byrne from **The Wardrobe** in **Neston** gave a fabulous talk and demonstration at our April meeting on **Personal Style and Colour**. Outfits were elegantly modelled by some of our WI ladies - one of them modelling a particularly fetching outfit of feather-trimmed red and gold silk pyjamas!

On **Wednesday, 10th April**, the Clothes Shwop event at the WI Hall in aid of St John's Hospice, Wirral was well attended. Donated items ranging from clothing and jewellery to household goods were available as well as tea and cakes. The event raised over £400 and any remaining donated items were passed on to the Hospice for sale in their shops. Many thanks to everyone who made this event so successful.

On **Friday, 12th April**, THWI Strollers enjoyed a very interesting walk around Rock Park with history expert Su Thompson.

THWI Meeting Times: THWI meetings will start at 7.30 pm during the summer months.

On **Tuesday, 14th May**, we enjoyed a Fashion & Craft Afternoon Tea at John Lewis meeting at the Place to Eat restaurant for a fabulous Afternoon Tea, plus a Style Talk, including top brand clothes to browse through and expert advice. In addition we had a talk from a John Lewis crafting expert and, of course, a goody bag to take home.

Friday, 17th May, A personal invitation for THWI to visit saw us at Christ Church, Port Sunlight. We met in a reserved area of the café and enjoyed a talk on the history of the church from expert John Lindsay, followed by a recital from organist Peter Bellis who gave a splendid rendition of Jerusalem. Tea/coffee and cake came afterwards and, of course, a chat.

By the time you read this we will have welcomed entertainment from the Homebirds Duo at the WI Hall. The evening includes Supper, great raffle prizes and lots of fun.

Our **Book Club** meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at the hall from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. The book for discussion this month is:

Book 27 - Great Uncle Harry by Michael Palin

Great-Uncle Harry is an utterly compelling account of an ordinary man who led an extraordinary life. A blend of biography, history, travelogue and personal memoir - this is Michael Palin at his very finest.

and our **Gardening Group** are looking forward to their first garden visit of the year with an outing to 'Bryn Bellan' (Gabrielle's garden), Gwernaffield, in nearby Flintshire.

OUR NEXT EVENING MEETING will be on **Tuesday, 4th June at 7.30 pm.**

Greer Lacey from **Jacksons Animal Rescue** will tell us all about the work of the animal rescue team on Wirral. Visitors always welcome!

If you would like more information about Thornton Hough WI please contact us:

www.facebook.com/ThorntonHoughW.I1926

email:thwi.thorntonhough@btinternet.com

Website: <https://thorntonhoughwi.org>

Janet Gaywood



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Solutions to the puzzles

The 16 Books of the Bible solution

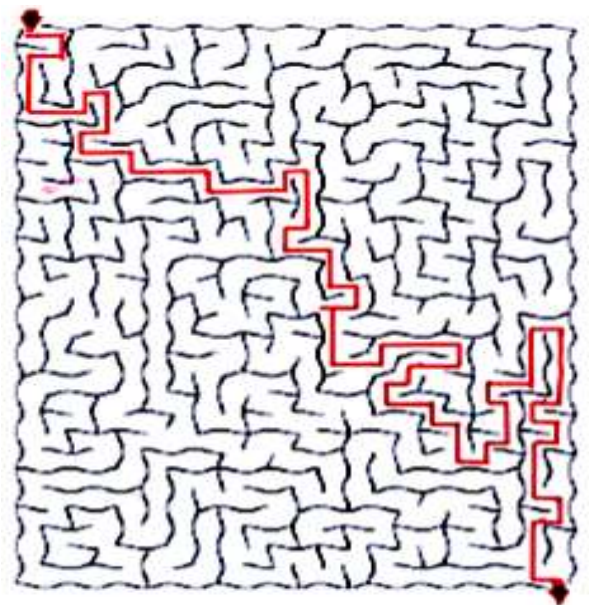
I once made a **remark** about the hidden books of the Bible. A certain **fluke**, kept people looking so hard for **facts**, and for others, it was a **revelation**. Some were in a **jam**, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the **truth** finally struck home to **numbers** of our readers. To others it was a **job**. We want it to be a **most** fascinating little moment for you. **Yes, there** will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require **judges** to help find them. I will quickly admit **it usually** takes the preacher to find one of them, and there will be loud **lamentations** when it is found. A little lady says **she brews** a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how you will **compete**. Relax now, for there really are sixteen books of the Bible in this paragraph. The 16 Books are also listed below:-

Acts, Amos, Esther, Hebrews, James, Job, Judges, Kings, Lamentations, Luke, Mark, Numbers, Peter, Revelations, Ruth, Titus

4	6	9	5	7	2	1	8	3
7	5	8	6	3	1	9	4	2
2	1	3	9	4	8	7	5	6
1	9	5	7	2	3	4	6	8
8	2	7	4	6	9	5	3	1
6	3	4	8	1	5	2	7	9
9	7	6	1	8	4	3	2	5
3	8	1	2	5	7	6	9	4
5	4	2	3	9	6	8	1	7

Sudoku

Route through
the maze



Sunday 9th June 2024

Your favourite hymns

Come and sing your favourite hymns at our special service at 6:30pm on Sunday 11th June.

To mark *Music Sunday*, we are having a service where you can request that we sing a hymn that is some way “special” to you. It may be a hymn that reminds you of a significant event or of a special person, a hymn that has given you encouragement, a hymn that fills you with joy or just your favourite hymn. At the service we shall invite members of the congregation to request a hymn and, if they are willing, to share the reason they would like us to sing that particular hymn. Further details will be announced near the time.

Music Sunday is an initiative by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) to help promote awareness of music in worship. The RSCM is an educational charity that promotes the best use of music in worship, church life, and the wider community.

All Saints' Thornton Hough is affiliated to the RSCM and at this special service there will be a collection to support the work of the RSCM.





Sunday Bible Readings

June—July 2024

May

26 **Trinity Sunday**
Isaiah 6:1-8 John 3: 1-17

June

2 **First Sunday after Trinity**
Deuteronomy 5:12-15 Mark 2:23-36

9 **Second Sunday after Trinity**
Genesis 3:8-15 Mark 3:20-35

16 **Third Sunday after Trinity**
Ezekiel 17:22-24 Mark 4:26-34

23 **Fourth Sunday after Trinity**
Job 38:1-11 Mark 4:35-41

30 **Fifth Sunday after Trinity**
Lamentations 3:23-33 Mark 5:21-43

July

7 **Sixth Sunday after Trinity**
Ezekiel 2:1-5 Mark 6:1-13

14t **Seventh Sunday after Trinity**
Amos 7:7-15 Mark 6:14-29

21 **Eighth Sunday after Trinity**
Jeremiah 23:1-6 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

28 **Ninth Sunday after Trinity**
2 Kings 4:42-44 John 6:1-21

August

4 **Tenth Sunday after Trinity**
Exodus 16:2-4;9-15 John 6:24-35



All Saints' Church,
Thornton Hough

Toybox meets in the Parish Hall from 10am to 11:30am,
on the second Monday of the month

Dates of future meetings

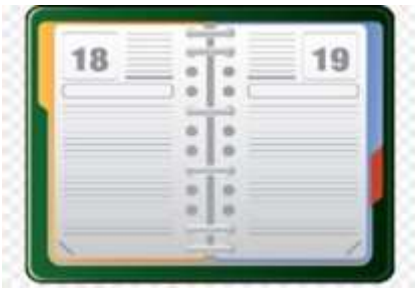
Monday 10th June 2024

Monday 8th July 2024



£2 per family

Free play, craft, story, songs and refreshments
Babies and toddlers with their carers (mums, dads, grandparents etc)
All welcome.



Parish Diary

June—July 2024

May

26	Sunday	Trinity Sunday	10:30am	Holy Communion
27	Monday			Late Spring Bank Holiday
29	Wednesday	10:30am		Holy Communion
31	Friday	7:00pm		Choir Practice

June

2	Sunday	First Sunday after Trinity	8:00am	Holy Communion
			10:30am	Holy Communion
5	Wednesday	10:30am		Holy Communion
7	Friday	7:00pm		Choir Practice
9	Sunday	Second Sunday after Trinity	10:30am	Holy Communion
			6:30pm	Your favourite hymns
10	Monday	10:00am		Toybox
11	Tuesday	7:30pm		PCC Meeting
12	Wednesday	10:30am		Holy Communion
		2:15pm		ACF: Wirral Wildlife (Dr Hilary Ash)
14	Friday	7:00pm		Choir Practice
16	Sunday	Third Sunday after Trinity	8:00am	Holy Communion
			10:30am	Holy Communion
19	Wednesday	10:30am		Holy Communion
23	Sunday	Fourth Sunday after Trinity	10:30am	Holy Communion
26	Wednesday	10:30am		Coffee Morning
30	Sunday	Fifth Sunday after Trinity	10:30am	Holy Communion

July

3	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
7	Sunday	Sixth Sunday after Trinity	
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
8	Monday	10:00am	Toybox
10	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
		2:15pm	ACF: Strawberry Tea
12	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
14	Sunday	Seventh Sunday after Trinity	
		10:30am	Holy Communion
		6:30pm	Choral Evensong
17	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
19	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
21	Sunday	Trinity 8	
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
24	Wednesday	10:30am	Coffee Morning
26	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
28	Sunday	Trinity 9	
		10:30am	Holy Communion
31	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion

August

3	Saturday		Wedding
4	Sunday	Trinity 10	
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion

Thank you

The Editors have received a request from Eileen Roberts for a thank you to be included in this magazine for all the contributors who make the magazine so interesting. She asked us to include a special mention for Caroline Lancelyn Green's Poetry Corner. These articles have brought Eileen many happy memories reading poetry whenever she could. Well done, Caroline!

Who to contact about our groups

Bible Study and Prayer	Shirley McEvoy	336 3449
A Church Fellowship (ACF) until July 2024	Helen Tankard	hdt1426@sky.com
Church Choir	Iain Stinson	iain@stinson.org.uk 342 4800
The Magazine Team		editor@allsaintsth.org.uk
	Patsy Baker	336 3273
	Revd Vicky Barrett	336 2766
	Brian Morris	336 1393
	Iain Stinson	342 4800

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.

From the Registers— April 2024

Wedding

26th April Philip Woodworth and Rose Player

Burial of Ashes

27th April Margaret Mary AUSTIN (Nee Ridding) (72)

May she rest in peace and rise in glory

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this edition of *The Magazine*. Contributions for future editions of *The Magazine* are very welcome. 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
Tuesday July 16th 2024**

Who's who at All Saints

Vicar	Revd Vicky Barrett	336 2766 vicar@allsaintsth.org.uk <i>The Vicar's normal day off is Friday.</i>
Churchwardens	Alan Splitt June Allcock	alan@allsaintsth.org.uk 353 1079 June@allsaintsth.org.uk
Churchwarden elect	Patsy Baker	336 3273
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	
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
Director of Music	Iain Stinson	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
Toybox Coordinator	Sue Stinson	342 4800 sue@allsaintsth.org.uk
Magazine Contributions		editor@allsaintsth.org.uk
All Saints Church Website		allsaintsth.org.uk
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