

All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

The Magazine



June - July 2026

All Saints' Church, Thornton Hough



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

Dates of meetings

Monday 8th June

Monday 13th July

**£2 per family
Everybody welcome**

Free play, craft, story, songs and refreshments

For further information please contact
Vicky (the Vicar) 0151 336 2766
Sue 0151 342 4800 sue@allsaintsth.org.uk



Babies and toddlers with their carers (mums, dads, grandparents etc)
All welcome.

All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

Coffee Mornings

Wednesday at 10.30am
in the Parish Hall

2026

24th June

22nd July

No Coffee Morning
in August

Refreshments

Raffle

Everybody
welcome

Entry 50p

Conversation
with friends



All Saints' Church, Thornton Hough

Summer Strawberry Tea

Wednesday 8th July

at 2.30pm in the Parish Hall

All Welcome

Tickets £3

Welcome letter from the Vicar

Bless You!

Isn't language a joy?

That term, "Bless you!" has its roots in ancient history. It was a way of wishing someone health if you heard them sneeze. The real fear and danger of catching a nasty infection, such as the plague, when there were very few effective medicines, meant it was a way of offering a very direct mini-prayer for them.



We still use it when someone sneezes, but perhaps without the mini-prayer attachment, and as more of an instinctive response. In the same way, you can also say it as a gesture of sympathy when someone has suffered some kind of struggle or hurt, or possibly shorten it to, "Ah, bless," which might be said either of a sweet remark, or possibly more ironically, where a well-intentioned action has not turned out quite as expected, or regarding the behaviour of a more difficult person.

But what might happen if we made using the words "Bless you" as less of an instinctive sneeze-reaction or sympathetic cluck, to something more active?

What happens if we actually pause for a moment and pray for that person caught in the midst of a sneeze – or, to give it its medical term, sternutation? (A helpful note for any pub-quizzers?)

And what happens if instead of saying, "Oh, bless you!" we turn the exclamation into something more active: "*How* can I bless you?"

That word "bless" might sound a little too heavily religious for some, but take the word in its broadest sense. Rather than assuming we know best, asking what help or encouragement someone might like from us when we meet them turns everything around. There could be simple, practical things which a person would appreciate which we haven't realised. It could be the blessing of time spent having someone sitting alongside them quietly. It might be simply blessing them by leaving them alone, giving them space.

In our uncertain, uneasy world, re-focusing on how we might bless others in word, backed up by thought and deed, and be blessed by them in turn, has huge potential to transform.

Vicky



From the churchwardens



Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the Annual General Meeting on Sunday 10th May. A huge thank you too, to all those people who are willing to continue to devote their time, expertise and skills to serve in some form or other for another year. Also to those who are stepping up for the first time, thank you. We simply cannot function without your help and we are enormously grateful.

The Heating Working Group has been following up on the suggestions put forward by the Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Officer and met to discuss the pros and cons of all the potential heating options available to us. Iain is kindly documenting these and producing our draft proposal. We will continue to work with our Heating Consultant to seek his input. Once agreed with the wider PCC, we will again meet with the Diocesan Net Zero Carbon Officer and Diocesan Advisory Committee to discuss our proposal. This whole process is very time consuming, but please be assured we are working to restore heating to the church in late autumn.

Every five years our church architect is required to inspect the state of the church building, churchyard, trees and the boundary walls. This Quinquennial Inspection (QI) is like a health check and the subsequent QI report will detail any urgent works required and also list any medium to longer term issues that we need to address. This helps PCC with planning and budgeting for the future and helps to ensure that the church building is being appropriately maintained. Jennifer Chambers, our church architect, met with Revd Vicky and June on 12th May to commence the Quinquennial Inspection on All Saints. The final QI report will be shared with PCC.

Flowers! Now that we are back in church for our services, would any of you like to join our Flower Rota? It really is enjoyable. Yes, really! There is money in the Flower Fund to be used for this happy task, just keep your receipt for a refund of up to £20. If you are interested, please speak to Patsy, June or Margaret Gamble.

Patsy and June

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The Annual Meetings on 11th May 2026

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners

The Vicar, Revd Vicky Barrett, opened the meeting in prayer.

June Allcock and Patsy Baker were elected as the Churchwardens for the coming year. Vicky expressed her enormous thanks to June and Patsy for all their generosity, supportiveness and hard work as Churchwardens over the last twelve months and gave them flowers to show her gratitude.

The churchwardens will officially start their term of office after attending a Visitation Service. (The service for Wirral South Deanery is on Monday 1st June 2026 at 7.30pm, at All Saints' Church, Thornton Hough).

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The **Financial Report** for 2025 and the **Annual Report** for 2025 had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

The Electoral Roll. The Electoral Roll had been revised this year. On the day of the meeting the roll stood at 88. If anyone would still like to apply to be on the roll, please do so. It isn't too late.

Vicky **thanked everyone** for everything that had gone on in the parish and for all the contributions to the report. Much has been achieved this year.

In the first part of the report, which laid out **our objectives**, Vicky had introduced red, amber and green ratings to indicate their progress. Vicky urged us all to think what we can do to move things forward. As part of our everyday faith we should be sharing, encouraging and helping each other.

Vicky thanked Sue Stinson for her work as PCC Secretary and Iain Stinson for his work as Treasurer and Director of Music. She expressed her gratitude for all they did with gifts of flowers, a voucher and wine.

She also **expressed her thanks** to Margaret Gamble as verger and caretaker, Linda Arch for her work in Safeguarding and helping us to think about our carbon footprint, the Health and Safety Team (June Allcock, Gill Charvill, Tracey Heaps and Richard Singleton) for all their hard work, the sidespeople for their warm welcome, Tim Allan-Price for all he does, the coffee makers, the choir, those who contributed to and produced the magazine and the calendar, members of the PCC, everyone who had helped to produce the Annual Report.

In return **Iain Stinson thanked Vicky** for taking our activities forward. The meeting showed their appreciation for all she does with a round of applause.

Vicky will have been with us for seven years on 16th May. Thank you Vicky for all that you do. It is great to have you as our Vicar

It has been a joy to see **children** engaging with the children's activities in the transept during the services and to see the faces of the children coming to Toybox light up as they come into the room. The Toybox group is thriving. **Thanks** were expressed to Sue Stinson and all the **Toybox helpers** (Patsy Baker, Kate Allen, Pat Moate and Brenda Freetenby). [Thank you to Vicky for her help too!]

Vicky was the Rural Dean throughout 2025. The meetings were open meetings to which anyone was invited and explored matters of topical interest such as Racial Justice. Elections to the **Deanery Synod** took place in 2026.

Iain Stinson was thanked for preparing the **Financial Statements** for the year ending December 2025. As PCC Treasurer he had provided the figures, a written narrative and explanations of the figures at all the PCC meetings.

Iain **thanked** Scirard Lancelyn Green for examining and approving the accounts as our **Independent Examiner**, and the **counters**, (Pam Machin, Don Harrison and Patsy Baker) for counting the money and banking it.

Although we ended the year with a small surplus on the General Fund, we are now facing **rising costs** and the replacement of the **church heating system**. We don't yet know how much the new system will cost but estimates have been in the range £15,000 to £20,000 up to £90,000.

We do still have generous endowments, but we depend on the income from these for the day to day running of the church. **People at All Saints are very generous** and that is the reason that we are still open.

All our **endowments** are controlled by the Diocese. When one of the funds matured in early 2026 the deadline for re-investing was missed by the Diocese and the first we heard of it was when they got a cheque for £130,000 and asked us where we wanted it to be re-invested. It has now been re-invested.

Elections. Gill Charvill, Tracey Heaps and Verity Smith were elected to the PCC as Representatives of the Laity. Linda Arch and June Allcock were elected as our Deanery Synod representatives. (There is still one vacancy if you are interested.)

Scirard Lancelyn Green was appointed as the **Independent Examiner** for 2026.

Finally, Vicky thanked everyone for coming to the meeting; your presence is invaluable.

Sue Stinson
PCC Secretary

Notes on the PCC meetings held on 14th April and 12th May

The April meeting was the last one before the Annual Meetings. We looked back over the last year and what had been achieved and forward to the year ahead. Margaret Gamble had come to the end of her time on the PCC; we are very grateful to Margaret for all that she has contributed. The Deanery Synod Representatives (Linda Arch, Iain Stinson and Sue Stinson) had also come to the end of their three years in post.

In matters arising we learnt that “the case of the missing headstone” had been solved and resolved amicably. It had been taken away for amendment by a local stonemason without the required notification!

Replacement of the church heating has dominated much of our thinking recently. We have to get a faculty from the Diocese and to do this must jump through a lot of hoops. We had commissioned a report from a Heating Consultant which provided a useful starting point. Data readings (temperature and humidity) have been collected over several months.

The Vicar, Churchwardens and Treasurer have been working through all the options, liaising with the Diocese and meeting with contractors and manufacturers. In addition to replacing the three failed (domestic sized) gas boilers with one large industrial boiler other potential solutions considered have included overhead heating chandeliers and wall mounted radiant heaters, the use of finned electrical heaters in the ducts (under the iron grilles), and heat pumps. Hybrid systems have also been looked at. We are constrained by the electrical supply to the church. Some options were very expensive to install and run, some would not heat the church adequately. Some are greener than others. Iain Stinson has compiled a report with our preferred solution and reasons for dismissing some of the others. Hopefully a submission can be made to the diocese in the not too distant future and progress can be made towards a warm church in time for next winter.

The May meeting, just after the Annual Meetings was primarily to elect officers for the coming year. We were delighted that Carole Adams had agreed to join us and the PCC voted her in to one of the vacant positions as a Representative of the Laity. There are still two vacancies as Representatives of the Laity. Everyone has something to offer so if you think this is something you could do please speak to Vicky or a member of the PCC. Representatives of the Laity serve for three years initially then can be re-elected for a further three. Sue and Iain Stinson are no longer eligible to be Representatives of the Laity but in the absence of anyone else to take on the roles of PCC Secretary and PCC Treasurer they were co-opted for a further year. (We are allowed two co-opted members).

The meeting in May was convened to appoint PCC officers and members of some committees.

The PCC and officers are now as follows:

Name	PCC status	Officers and Committees
Revd Vicky Barrett	Vicar	Chairman of the PCC Standing Committee Ex officio member of all committees
June Allcock	Churchwarden Deanery Synod representative	Vice Chairman of the PCC Standing Committee, Finance Committee Fabric Committee Health and Safety Officer Remuneration Subcommittee
Patsy Baker	Churchwarden	Standing Committee Finance Committee Remuneration Subcommittee
Iain Stinson	Co-opted by the PCC	Treasurer Standing Committee Finance Committee Charity Commission Officer
Sue Stinson	Co-opted by the PCC	PCC Secretary Standing Committee
Linda Arch	Deanery Synod representative	Parish Safeguarding Officer Eco-representative
Carole Adams	Representative of the laity	
Kate Allen	Representative of the laity	
Gill Charvill	Representative of the laity	Fabric H&S Committee
Di Hughes	Representative of the laity	Standing Committee
Richard Singleton	Representative of the laity	Fabric H&S Committee
Verity Smith	Representative of the laity	Assistant to the Treasurer

The Standing Committee acts on behalf of the PCC in between meetings when decisions are necessary.

Linda Arch, our Eco-Representative would like a group to look at how as a church we are impacting the planet.

There was some discussion about the dates of future meetings and signatories on the bank accounts. Discussions about how we receive Holy Communion will be on the agenda at the next meeting. If you have any thoughts about this please speak to Vicky or any member of the PCC. It would be good to hear a range of views.

Finally it was agreed that we should have a Strawberry Tea on Wednesday 8th July, starting at 2:30pm. Look out for the posters and the tickets (£3) when they go on sale. We hope to see you there!

Sue Stinson
PCC Secretary

URGENT APPEAL

Could you save the life of someone like Ronnie?

#Register4Ronnie

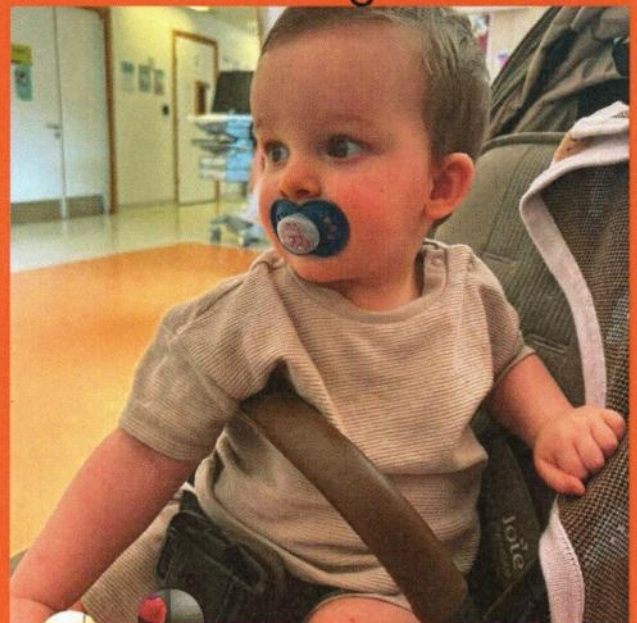
Meet Ronnie!

A week before his 1st Birthday,
Ronnie's family were given the
diagnosis no parent wants to
hear -

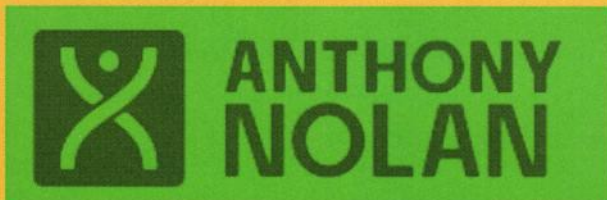
Very Severe Aplastic Anaemia

And Ronnie's only hope to live a
long and healthy life?

A stem cell transplant



Join the Stem Cell Register today



Aged 16 - 30?



Aged 16 - 55?

Visit:

**[www.dkms.org.uk/re
gister-now](http://www.dkms.org.uk/register-now)**

URGENT APPEAL—Can you help Baby Ronnie?

You may have heard “Baby Ronnie’s” name mentioned recently on our Prayer list in Church.

- ◆ Until 2 months ago Ronnie was a happy and healthy 1 year old little boy.
- ◆ Then he was suddenly diagnosed with severe aplastic anaemia—a rare and serious blood disorder.
- ◆ At the moment he is attending Alder Hey Children’s Hospital in Liverpool for blood transfusions and injections.
- ◆ His only hope for a cure is to have a stem cell transplant from a healthy and matched donor.

The Anthony Nolan Trust and various social media platforms are making appeals for people to register to be tested to see if they are eligible to be a donor. You may have seen the “Register4Ronnie” campaign in the media.

If you or someone you know would like to help Ronnie and would be happy to be tested, please contact either through The Anthony Nolan register for those between 16 and 30 years of age or through DKMS for those between 16 and 55 years of age - see article on previous page.

Ronnie’s family are long time residents of Thornton Hough and his great granddad was a verger of All Saints’ Church a few years ago. His Nan works at the Village School and his Mum works at Thornton Hall Hotel.

If you are willing to join the blood donor list and it transpires that you are not compatible with Ronnie there are many other young children needing bone marrow transplants and perhaps your donation could help one of them.

Thank You

News from the Community

This year the **Classic Car rally** will be held on Sunday 19th July with the rally ending on the Village Green at about 12:30pm. There will be refreshments (BBQ, Cakes and drinks) available during the afternoon. It is hoped to have a raffle.

The Wirral Mayor’s Community BBQ will be held on the Village Green on Sunday 5th July 12 noon—4pm. There will be Tasty Bites, entertainment, Games and a Raffle. Come and Enjoy the fun.

There will be a **Village litter Pick** on Saturday 4th July at 9:30 am. All interested in taking part to meet at the Village Green’s Car Park.

The Trust has registered the Village as a **No Cold Calling** area and signs will be displayed on lampposts and residents will be given individual notices for display by their front door.

A Survival Story — The Fairy Penguins of Middle Island

Whenever we go to Warrnambool, a small city in the State of Victoria, Australia about 200 miles south – west of Melbourne, to visit our son and his family we are also eager to see Middle Island - the home of some of the world's smallest penguins "The Fairy Penguin" 9 – 10 inches tall with dark blue feathers on its back.

The Fairy Penguins come to this island every year between September and March to moult, breed and bring up their young, spending the rest of the time out at sea. They lay their eggs in burrows on the ocean side of the island, climbing up and down the steep rocky slopes when their young hatch to find food for them. They hunt for fish in the treacherous



seas off the Victoria coast and bring them back late in the evening for their chicks. The number of penguins on Middle Island was stable if not increasing each year.

But in 2005 it was discovered that foxes from the mainland were crossing to the island at low tide and eating the eggs, chicks and killing the penguins with only 10 penguins surviving from the 200 - 300 thought to have been on the island.

The community of Warrnambool are very proud of their wildlife and were desperate to save the penguins. Many meetings were held and long discussions took place before a local farmer "Swampy Marsh", came up with the idea of using his Maremma dog called Oddball to keep the foxes away. He had found that Oddball was very successful at defending his hens from the foxes on his farm. (*The Maremma dogs were brought originally to Australia*



from Italy as sheep dogs.) They never harmed the hens nor the chicks (or chucks as they are known in Australia!)

Eventually it was agreed to try this scheme especially as no one could suggest anything else. The plan involved making the island out of bounds to the public in the first instance and to place Oddball on the island to live and sleep there, with food being brought out each day. To everybody's delight no penguins were lost that year so the experiment was repeated over the next few years and again no penguins were lost.

The numbers began to increase each year, so that by 2017 there were estimated to be 250 penguins on the island.

Another Maremma dog was trained to accompany Oddball and in time two other dogs were trained to help keep the little penguins safe. However, in 2018 the penguins arrived early and weather conditions deteriorated in the early spring so that it was too dangerous for the dogs to be on the island. A fox made its way there and sadly over 140 penguins were lost. Since then two Maremma dogs have been placed permanently on the island with proper shelters built for them. The exact number of penguins are uncertain this year but it is hoped that there are between 70 and 100 penguins nesting on the island.

There are now six Maremma dogs trained for penguin protection—working in pairs and rotated two on the island and two resting back on the farm with the other two being used for training and educational purposes (visiting schools etc).

When on the island they live and work there for the Summer months (November— March) alternating fortnightly with the two dogs. They have shelter with food and water provided each day. They only need to bark to keep the foxes away.

To us and so many others seeing the penguins is so heart warming and incredible. These small creatures have survived the cold winds blowing from the South Pole, the huge crashing waves of the Southern Ocean, the seals, sharks and killer whales and still arrive year on year on this tiny island in a busy bay full of swimmers, sailors and fishing boats. A very moving sight in our and God's wonderful world!

Here is one of Oddball's descendants.



You can see articles on *The Fairy Penguin* and on *Oddball and the Maremma dogs on the Internet*. Also a full length film has been made of the story of "Oddball and the Penguins" which we thoroughly enjoyed watching with our grandchildren!

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Brian and Lesley Morris





Cuckoo, whose arrival and two-note song herald spring

This is the weather the cuckoo likes
 And so do I.
 When showers betumble the chestnut spikes
 And nestlings fly
 And the little brown nightingale bills his best
 And they sit outside at The Travellers' Rest
 And maids come forth sprig muslin drest
 And citizens dream of the south and west
 And so do I.



Chestnut spike



Nightingale singing

This is the weather the shepherd shuns
 And so do I.
 When beeches drip in browns and duns
 And thresh and ply
 And hill-hid tides throb thro on thro
 And meadow rivulets overflow
 And drops on gate bars hang in a row
 And rooks in families homeward go
 And so do I.



Beech tints in autumn

Thomas Hardy (1840 - 1928), famous for desperately sad novels like *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* and *Jude the Obscure* and pessimistic poems like *The Darkling Thrush* and *During Wind and Rain*, produced this charming, delightful poem when he was 82. It is typically straightforward, observant and technically assured, and conjures, as always in his work, a sense of being in a particular place and time.

The two verses compare and contrast two idealised versions of the seasons of spring and autumn. Birds, trees, rain and people all appear in both scenes, and the metre and layout of both verses are the same. The reminder that the speaker is at one with the seasons is also there in the repeated "And so do I".

Spring birds are the cuckoo, the fledglings and the nightingale. The cuckoo is a notoriously presumptuous visitor, especially to meadow pipits, and its call resembles the shameful word "cuckold", but it still brings cheer. Nestlings are now fledglings and able to fly. The rippling words "little brown nightingale" beautifully render its melodious singing, and "bills his best" is a lovely way to say "sings his best songs". In autumn it is noisy black rooks clouding the sky.



Sprigged muslin glove

In spring the tree is the chestnut with its candle - like flowers, not at all bothered by the playful showers which ruffle them. In autumn the sodden beeches have lost their golden lustre and thrash about and tangle their branches as if suffering some kind of attack. Trees welcome the spring showers, but droop and turn dull in the autumn downpours.

Hardy's description of rainwater in autumn makes it sound as though the water itself is suffering. The seasonal streams that suddenly erupt from the hillside throb, as if in pain, and their gushes are "thro on thro", like the spasms of a fit. Just reading the words is a physical effort. They are all monosyllabic and full of consonants. Indeed the lines "And hill-hid tides throb, thro on thro" and "And drops on gate bars hang in a row" are both made heavy and dull by their monosyllables. A great contrast with the three syllable words in spring: betumble, nightingale, Traveller's, sprig-muslin and citizens.

We also have people. In spring people are out and about, like the birds. Pub visitors are sitting outside the tavern, girls are drawing attention to themselves in fashionable frocks that are designed to show off young figures. (Muslin was then a very fine cotton, almost transparent, made in India, and to make it decent to be worn it was woven or embroidered with little bunches of flowers - sprigs - in the same colour. It was known as sprigged muslin. It was cool and airy to wear, and was especially in evidence on arms and neck areas.) City people in spring look forward to going out further, for their summer holidays - in the south and west.

The people in autumn know better than to be out and about; the sensible shepherd avoids the weather when he can; instead of the increasing excitement of spring: the arrival of the cuckoo, the nightingale, the drinkers, the girls and the looking forward to the future holiday - autumn is for winding down, giving up, avoiding floods and falling branches, no more exciting than a row of raindrops on a gate or the mass exodus of rooks to their rookery.



*Flooded Lugg Meadow
Herefordshire*

This much-loved, very English, poem was quoted by Inspector Barnaby in ***Midsummer Murders***.

Caroline Lancelyn Green



Rooks flying off to roost.

General Knowledge Quiz *(set by ChatGPT)*

1. Which empire was ruled by Genghis Khan?
2. In what year did the Berlin Wall Fall occur?
3. Which language has the most native speakers worldwide?
4. What is the official currency of Switzerland?
5. Who painted Guernica?
6. What is the hardest natural substance on Earth?
7. Which planet has the most moons currently confirmed?
8. What does DNA stand for?
9. Which blood type is known as the universal donor?
10. What gas makes up most of Earth's atmosphere?
11. What is the capital city of New Zealand?
12. Which river flows through Budapest?
13. What is the largest desert in the world overall (not just hot deserts)?
14. Which country shares the longest border with United States?
15. Mount Kilimanjaro is located in which country?
16. Who wrote 1984?
17. Which film won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1994 and starred Tom Hanks?
18. In Greek mythology, who was the god of the sea?
19. Which band released the album *The Dark Side of the Moon*?
20. What is Sherlock Holmes' address in London?
21. What is the mathematical value of π rounded to 3 decimal places?
22. Which element has the chemical symbol "K"?
23. What is the tallest building in the world?
24. Which country hosted the 2016 Summer Olympics?
25. What is the smallest prime number?

Solution on Page 32

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

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.

Solutions on Page 32

Colours Word Search

Find and circle all of the colours that are hidden in the grid. The words may be hidden in any direction.

BEIGE
 BLACK
 BLUE
 BROWN
 GOLD
 GREEN
 IVORY
 ORANGE
 PINK
 PURPLE
 RED
 ROSE
 SILVER
 TURQUOISE
 VIOLET
 WHITE
 YELLOW

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



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.

We can cater for 50 to 150 guests

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Three Cheers and Thank You to Dave Green!



Dave Green has been landlord of Thornton Hough landmark “The Red Fox” since it opened in December 2014. On 7th April this year he began a new chapter as he took over the running of “The Architect” in Chester, just across the road from Chester Racecourse.

Thornton Hough became his home for the whole family, and Dave and Tash were married at All Saints’ Church in May 2022.

David drove through Thornton Hough village when the Red Fox was still open as The Grange, and saw that it was a very special place. Time has rushed along, and, over 11 years later, he built up a thriving concern which now sees the pub serve up 3½ thousand meals a week and welcome 800 people to Sunday lunch. His passion is simple: “Dinner at my house.”

During those years, as well as the many beer, gin, sausage and other festivals, he has developed The Little Fox. His wife Tash has made it a special venue for weddings and other life events. Not only that, but as The Fox emerged from lock-down, the outdoor pizza tent, Outfoxed, was created. A new enterprise, a Barbecue, Bourbon and Blues event, will be coming soon. Recently, he initiated a new venture when he encouraged dog walkers to bring their dogs in to the Fox and this proved to be very popular.

There have been many high points as he has grown the pub through a challenging environment: supporting local people during Covid, offering ‘Click and Collect’ meals, and being awarded the accolade of Bronze medallist at the 2025 Visit England Pub of the Year award.

Thank you David for your valuable contribution to life in Thornton Hough and your close relationship you developed with our church. We wish Dave every success and happiness in his new venture and look forward to raising a glass to him in his new establishment.

All Saints’ Church 2027 Parish Calendar

We need your photographs!

Please send in your photographs (.jpg or .png files please) of our beautiful village and surrounding area for our very popular Calendar.

Reminder: they need to be in landscape orientation and sent as an attachment to an email to Brian Morris (brimorris@sky.com) or as a last resort give a hard copy to any of the Magazine Team.

The Vicar's favourite window

A look back at the story behind another of the All Saints wonderful stained glass windows. This time the 'Evans window' - which is apparently the vicar's favourite!

Situated on the west side of the church, the window is dedicated to the memory of Robert John Stuart Evans. Installed in 1972 it was made by Whitefriars Stained Glass Studios from Middlesex. The text "***Peace, be still and the storm ceased***", is taken from Mark's Gospel Chapter 4, and the scene depicts Jesus calming the tempest – on the River Mersey! In the background is the Liverpool skyline including the Royal Liver building.



At the very top of the window is the flag of the Liverpool Pilots.

Interestingly, along the bottom of the window

are images of a cat, a dog, a rabbit, a tortoise, and a bird! Presumably Robert's pets.

The whole scene is based on Robert's brief career as a river pilot on the Mersey, cut short when he was tragically killed in a motor cycle accident in Rhodes in Greece on 30th August 1971 aged just 26.

The research into Robert's background has been intriguing. Born in February 1945, he qualified as a pilot in 1970, the year before he died. Described by a fellow apprentice as tall and good looking, this picture of him was taken at a friend's wedding.

He had a sports car, and obviously a motor cycle which presumably he was riding at the time of his accident. When he was training he was known to his fellow apprentices as 'Spike' although his friends on Wirral called him 'Chips' - presumably after the nickname for the Californian Highway Patrol!



His mother and father were divorced. He spent most of his time living in West Kirby with his father who had a garage on Market Street in Birkenhead. It was his mother Liz who paid for the window. She originally had a cafe in Heswall by the police station. Then she ran the Wirral 100 Club, later buying Westwood Grange, now The Red Fox, which unfortunately went bankrupt. She had a nephew in Australia and went to live there in 1998, and died in Victoria in 2008 aged 95. Some of the readers will still probably remember her.

Apparently Robert was engaged but nothing is known of his fiancée with whom he had opened a bistro in the basement of The Grange.



Robert's funeral took place at Landican Crematorium on 8th September 1971. What happened to his ashes is not known. Scattered on the river perhaps?

His father, Robert Vincent Evans, died just three years later in December 1974 aged 66. His ashes were interred at All Saints the following April. This stone commemorating his life once stood by the outside wall of the church just below the window. but has since disappeared.

Gavin Hunter



My Favourite Window...

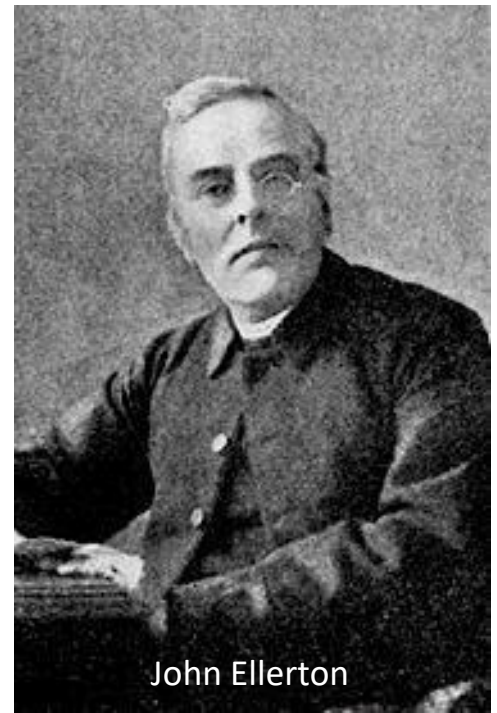
I love this window because it combines the story of Jesus calming the storm on the Sea of Galilee with the picture of calming storms on waters we are more familiar with - like the River Mersey. The detail of the Liverpool skyline always makes me smile. It brings the story "home" and encourages me to trust that whatever or wherever I encounter unrest or difficulty in my life, Jesus is there alongside me and continues to say, "Peace, be still."

I am grateful to Gavin for his account of the poignant full story behind the window.

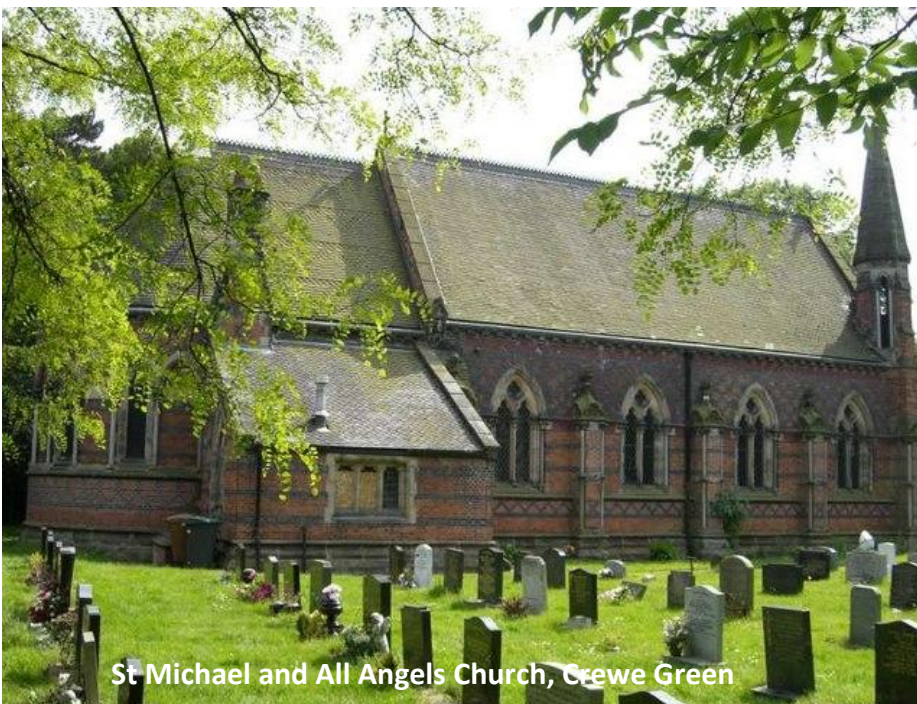
Vicky

Origin of Hymns No 14 - “The Day thou gavest Lord, is ended”

A very popular hymn, particularly for evening service use, is *The Day thou gavest Lord, is ended*. It is also often used for funerals. The author was John Ellerton (1826-1893), who was a prolific hymn writer, including such favourites as *O Perfect Love* and *Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise*. He was born in Clerkenwell, Middlesex, his father George being the head of an evangelical family. John was educated on the Isle of Man, and later at Trinity College, Cambridge. After taking holy orders in 1850 as a Curate he served in Eastbourne and Brighton (1852) before in 1860 becoming chaplain to Lord Crewe and Vicar of Crewe Green in Cheshire. It was also in 1860 he married (in Brighton) Charlotte Alicia Hart who gave him ten children. In 1872 he became Vicar of Hinstock (Shropshire) then in 1876 at Barnes, West London. After a short spell (1884-5) as a chaplain at Pegli in Italy, he went in 1886 to the small parish of White Roding (Essex) where he ended his ministry. In his last years he was made an Honorary Canon of St Albans Cathedral. He died in Torquay in 1893.



John Ellerton



St Michael and All Angels Church, Crewe Green

Our hymn was written in 1870 during his time in Crewe Green. It was intended for inclusion in 'A Liturgy for Missionary Meetings', its theme focussing on the worldwide fellowship of the church and its continual offering of prayer and praise to God. It was sung in 1897 at Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, at the Hong Kong handover ceremony a

century later, and at our late Queen Elizabeth II's funeral in 2022. It came third favourite in a 'Songs of Praise' poll in 2005. Ellerton also contributed to 'Hymns for Schools and Bible Classes' (1859) and 'Notes and Illustrations of Church Hymns' (1881).

It is invariably sung to the tune 'St Clement', and mostly credited to Rev. Clement Cotterill Scholefield. He was born in 1829 at Edgbaston, Birmingham where his father William was the local MP. He was educated at Pocklington Grammar School, Yorkshire, and later spent 3 years at St. John's College, Cambridge. He was ordained deacon in 1867 and priest in 1869. He served at Hove parish church then St. Peter's, Notting Hill, and at St. Luke's Chelsea, eventually in 1880 becoming chaplain at Eton College where he spent 10 years, and finally ending his ministry at Holy Trinity, Knightsbridge before retiring from the clergy in 1885.



Clement Cotterill Scholefield

During his time at St. Peter's he became close friends with Arthur Sullivan (composer of many hymn tunes and of course the famous operettas with W.S. Gilbert). Sullivan was organist at that church. It has been surmised that Sullivan had a greater hand than was first thought in writing 'St Clement', since Scholefield had had no formal music training (though he was an accomplished pianist). The tune seems to be far superior to anything else Scholefield wrote (which however did amount to 41 hymn tunes). It was first published in Sullivan's 1874 book 'Church Hymns and Tunes', and surprisingly



St. Peter's, Notting Hill

was much criticised, notably by Ralph Vaughan Williams, who in editing the 1906 'English Hymnal' relegated it to an appendix (once known in the trade as 'the chamber of horrors'). A former Archbishop of Canterbury, William Cosmo Gordon Lang described it as a 'feeble little waltz'! The

Methodist hymn book of 1933 has it as 'second tune' to 'Radford' by S.S. Wesley. But that was the hymn book which served me for the first 30 years of my life and I have only ever used 'St Clement'.

Scholefield died in 1904 at Frith Hall in Godalming, Surrey and is buried in Eashing Cemetery there.

Brian Moate



A REFRESHING TAKE ON LEGAL SERVICES

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HOUDINI SHEEP

For the past few months we have fostered a few sheep and lambs in our field. The ewes with lambs are very happy and well behaved, however, those without lambs are keeping us on our toes. One in particular, who we will call "Slippery Sue", jumps out with alarming regularity and returns dangerously via the road. Fences are repaired and raised on a regular basis by the farmer to no avail.

A knock on the door came recently to alert us to the fact that Sue was on the road yet again, so she was returned to the safest (as we thought) area. The next night at 10pm a bleating was heard at the front door. Sue was back and asking to be let back in for the night!

Slippery Sue is now back with the farmer along with her two pals with similar inclinations. They are "in detention" until the next market where they will hopefully be bought by a hill farmer where they can roam to their heart's content.

PB



“Harrods of the North”

I had never heard of such a thing until a visit to Dumfries in early Spring. The reason behind the journey was to visit the dark sky area and hopefully see the aurora. It turned out to be far more interesting and introduced me to a gentleman called James Brown, who used to run the ‘Harrods of the North’ in Manchester.

Affleck and Brown Ltd on Oldham Street in Manchester was by all accounts a thriving business and carried on across three generations of the family. The son, James, purchased Knoxbren House in Dumfriesshire in the late 1800s and over the years several other farms and land in the surrounding area. He seems to have used it as a country retreat and over time he and his architect produced a number of whimsical buildings across the area, many of which remain today. The estate has long since been sold but it is easy to spot the original boundaries and buildings.

The first clue that there was something a little unusual about the area was the building in which we were staying. It dominates the landscape.

This building is called Coo Palace and was completed in 1911 - with a milking parlour, dairy, stables, electric power, weigh bridge and the water tower which housed the dairyman and a telescope! The cows that were kept here were Galloways.

The striking red roof is visible for quite a distance.



Walking from here along the coast you also come across several other estate features! A bathing house - sadly now in ruins, a jetty and fishing bay, water courses and my personal favourite - the garage. This castle like building must have been quite something when it was used in the early 1900's.



The boundary to the estate is clearly visible in most places as the walls are all beautifully built and are quite substantial.

Also visible in many areas is his understanding of the challenges of the Great Depression and the need for work for those in the local community and on the estate. He was seen as an enlightened employer who was concerned for the welfare of his

employees and their families. This is evident in the laundries that he built for local use and across the estate where small pebbles are used to adorn the walls and paving. He provided small rewards for the children that collected the pebbles.



What started out as a weekend to view the stars and walk along the coast provided a fascinating insight into a man that I had never heard of and the stars, well they were visible as was the aurora for a short time. How lucky were we!

The sunset was spectacular and yes, we will be going back!

Ann Slee Jones



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Thornton Hough WI

At our last meeting we had a super evening with an Easter Bonnet, best decorated boiled egg competition and an Easter themed quiz. There were lots of beautiful hats decorated by our ladies together with fabulous decorated egg entries. Congratulations to our winners.

We spent a lively Tuesday evening at the WI Hall with 10 teams vying for a place in this year's Cheshire Federation quiz final. Congratulations to the ladies of Thornton Hough who achieved a splendid third place this year!

Our additional 100 Year Anniversary Event at the WI Hall was a lively afternoon. We were joined by over forty members including the outgoing Chair of Cheshire Federation who presented us with a memento for our 100 Year Anniversary, our WI Advisor and invited friends from Barnston WI, Ness and Little Ness, Riverside, and Poulton Lancelyn Ladies, as well as our cleaner and Tim who sets up the hall for us. We started with a scrumptious light buffet many thanks to everyone who helped on the day. Our speaker, well-known local historian Gavin Hunter, gave a brilliant talk on Thornton Hough village accompanied by 'before and after photographs'. THWI memorabilia was also on display and we enjoyed a super raffle.

Our Spring garden visits are back! Our ladies are looking forward to visiting two local gardens on the Wirral and further afield with a visit to Tattenhall Hall in Cheshire and Ffron Hall in North Wales.

This year we are celebrating our 100 Year Anniversary. We have a year of exciting events to mark this special occasion and would like to share our celebrations with you. On Sunday 14th June we would like to invite you to an Open Day at the WI Hall. Come and see what we're all about from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Free Entry. Scone, cream and Jam, coffee or tea £5, THWI memorabilia on display, examples of current THWI group activities, with homemade cakes, jams and chutneys for sale. We look forward to welcoming you all!

If you would like more information about Thornton Hough WI and to see photographs of our activities and events please go to:

www.facebook.com/ThorntonHoughW.I1926

email: thwi.thorntonhough@btinternet.com

Janet Gaywood

COOKERY CORNER

One tray chicken supper for 2 people

- 4 chicken drumsticks or thighs
- 10 oz small new potatoes
- 1 large red onion (cut into wedges)
- 3 or 4 sprigs of rosemary
- 3 or 4 tablespoons olive oil

Quarter or halve the potatoes into half inch pieces and put into a roasting tin.

Add the onion wedges and rosemary.

Season with black pepper and sea salt if available.

Add the chicken and olive oil. Turn everything over to coat with the oil.

Put the chicken on top and sprinkle with salt.

Roast for 30 to 40 mins at 190C, gas 5. (This also works well in an air fryer.)

Serve with green veg or salad.



RASPBERRY OATY CREAM for 2

- 4 oz raspberries
 - 1½ oz rolled oats
 - Cup of double cream
 - 1 teaspoon lemon juice
 - 1 teaspoon whisky (optional)
 - A little honey or maple syrup
 - Knob of butter
- Soak most of the oats in cream, whisky, honey and lemon juice for 20 mins.



Crush most of the raspberries keeping a few for decoration.

Melt the butter in a small saucepan and add the retained oats. Cook on high for a few mins, stirring all the time until well coloured.

Layer oaty cream mix and raspberry mix, finishing with creamy mix on top, in 2 glasses. Sprinkle with the buttery oats, drizzle with honey and decorate with the saved, whole raspberries.

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 14th July 2026**




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Puzzles Solutions

Quiz results

1. The Mongol Empire
2. 1989
3. Mandarin Chinese
4. Swiss franc
5. Pablo Picasso
6. Diamond
7. Saturn
8. Deoxyribonucleic acid
9. O negative (O-)
10. Nitrogen
11. Wellington
12. The Danube River
13. Antarctica (polar desert)
14. Canada
15. Tanzania
16. George Orwell
17. Forrest Gump
18. Poseidon
19. Pink Floyd
20. 221B Baker Street
21. 3.142
22. Potassium
23. Burj Khalifa
24. Brazil
25. 2

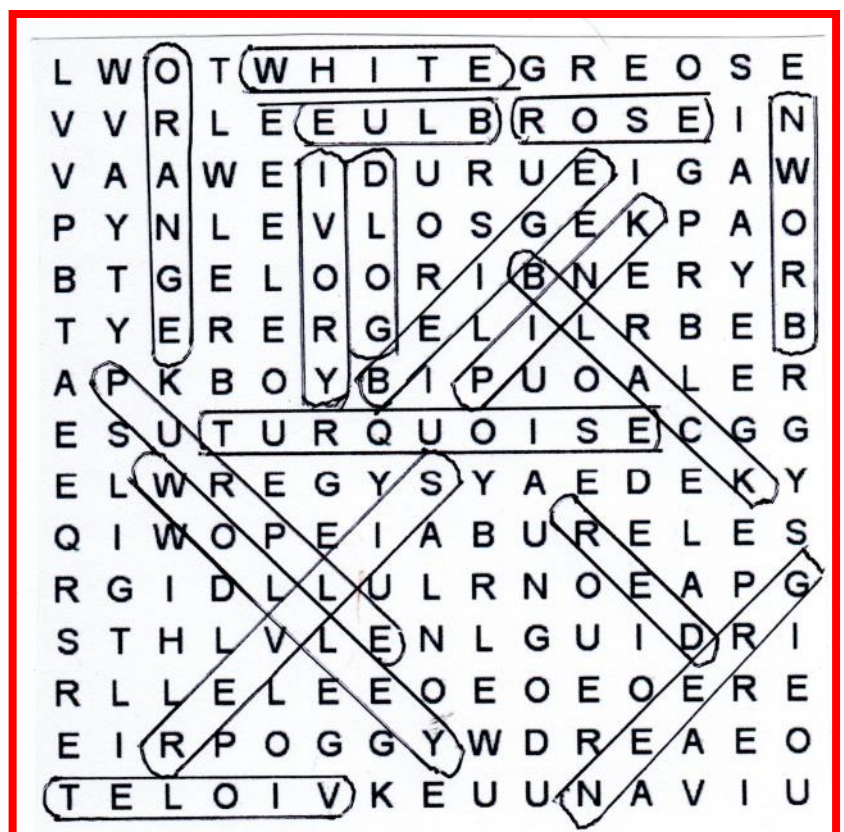
Sudoku

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

Word Search

Did you find all these words :-

Beige Black Blue Brown Gold
 Green Ivory Orange Pink
 Purple Red Rose Silver
 Turquoise Violet White Yellow





Bible Readings

June—July

June

7	First Sunday of Trinity Romans 4:13-25	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-36
14	Second Sunday of Trinity Romans 5:1-8	Matthew 9:35-10:8
21	Third Sunday of Trinity Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39
28	Fourth Sunday of Trinity Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42

July

5	Fifth Sunday of Trinity Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
12	Sixth Sunday of Trinity Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
19	Seventh Sunday of Trinity Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
26	Eighth Sunday of Trinity Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

August

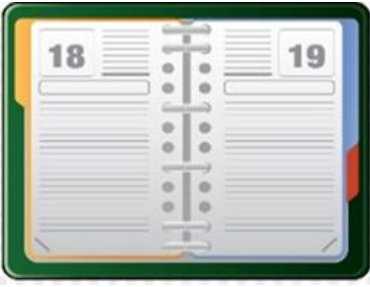
2	Ninth Sunday of Trinity Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21
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A verse from the Bible

“Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be given to you.”

Matthew 6:33

Please send us your favourite Bible verse so we can share it with our readers.



Parish Diary

June—July

May

27	Wednesday	10:30am	Coffee Morning
29	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
30	Saturday		
31	Sunday		Trinity Sunday
		10:30am	Morning Worship with Holy Baptism

June

1	Monday	7:30pm	Archdeacons' Visitation Service (at All Saints)
3	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
5	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
7	Sunday		First Sunday after Trinity
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
8	Monday	10:00am	Toybox
9	Tuesday	7:30pm	PCC Meeting
10	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
12	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
14	Sunday		Second Sunday after Trinity
		10:30am	Holy Communion
		6:30pm	Choral Evensong
17	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
21	Sunday		Third Sunday after Trinity
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
24	Wednesday	10:30am	Coffee Morning
28	Sunday		Fourth Sunday after Trinity
		10:30am	Holy Communion

July

1	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
5	Sunday		Fifth Sunday after Trinity
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
8	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
		2:30pm	Strawberry Tea
10	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
12	Sunday		Sixth Sunday after Trinity
		10:30am	Holy Communion
		6:30pm	Choral Evensong
13	Monday	10:00am	Toybox
14	Tuesday		Parish Magazine deadline (August—September)
		7:30pm	PCC Meeting
15	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
17	Friday	9:15am	School: Year 6 Leavers' Service
		7:00pm	Choir Practice
19	Sunday		Seventh Sunday after Trinity
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
22	Wednesday	10:30am	Coffee Morning
24	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
26	Sunday		Eighth Sunday after Trinity
		10:30am	Holy Communion
29	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
31	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice

August

2	Sunday		Ninth Sunday after Trinity
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
5	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion

From the Registers

Baby Kit Oscar **FARTHING** born asleep 12th April 2026. Buried 29th April 2026.

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	June Allcock	353 1079 june@allsaintsth.org.uk
	Patsy Baker	336 3273 patsy@allsaintsth.org.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Linda Arch	safeguarding@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
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Tom Mairs	electoralroll@allsaintsth.org.uk
Health & Safety Officer	June Allcock	353 1079 june@allsaintsth.org.uk
		Parish Hall Caretaker and Bookings
Director of Music	Iain Stinson	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
		Toybox Coordinator
Magazine Contributions		editor@allsaintsth.org.uk
All Saints' Church Website		allsaintsth.org.uk
Data Privacy Statement and Safeguarding Policy		allsaintsth.org.uk/about-us/ <i>and via the footer of each web page</i>



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Printed and published by All Saints' PCC, All Saints' Parish Office, Church Road, Thornton Hough, Wirral. CH63 1JW