

**All Saints' Church Thornton Hough**

# **The Magazine**



**April—May 2026**

All Saints' Church, Thornton Hough

# Holy Week

**29<sup>th</sup> March Palm Sunday**

10:30am Holy Communion  
with distribution of palm crosses

**2<sup>nd</sup> April Maundy Thursday**

7pm Holy Communion

**3<sup>rd</sup> April Good Friday**

10:30am A Meditation for Good Friday

# Easter

**5<sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday**

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10:30am Holy Communion

Everyone welcome



## Annual Parish Meetings

**10<sup>th</sup> May**

at 11:45am

following the 10:30am service.

*Reports, election of churchwardens  
and PCC members.*

***Please make it a priority to attend  
these important meetings.***



All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

# Coffee Mornings

2026  
22<sup>nd</sup> April  
27<sup>th</sup> May  
24<sup>th</sup> June  
22<sup>nd</sup> July  
No coffee mornings in  
August and December

Wednesday at 10.30am  
in the Parish Hall

Refreshments

Conversation with friends

Raffle

Entry 50p

Everybody welcome



## He is Risen Indeed!

That little word, 'indeed.' It can be used for emphasis, a verbal 'underscore,' or it can be used as a term of scorn or doubt: "Oh yes? Really?"

For some, the news of Jesus' rising from the dead on Easter Day was an indeed of the scornful, "Oh yes? Really?" kind. How could someone who had died on the cross and been put in a tomb sealed with a huge rock and with an armed Roman guard in front of it rise from the dead? And there are still many people who hear the Easter story today and wonder whether Jesus did indeed rise from the dead.



Indeed he did! Accounts of the risen Jesus come to us from the women who rushed back to tell the disciples what they had seen at the empty tomb, from the disciples who ate bread and fish with him, from the dejected pair who met him on the road to Emmaus, amongst others.

The good news of Jesus rising from the dead is the event which changes everything. In our cynical, dangerous world, it might seem as if there is no hope at times. Who can you trust? Where is the life in our overheated, wounded world?

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." He proved the first part of that statement by rising from the dead. He also said that he came into the world so that people could have "life in all its fulness."

Easter bursts upon us in the springtime renewal of life. We are invited to join in the joyful, hopeful chorus: Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! It encourages us to look at how we can bring new life and energy into our communities and relationships too.

He is risen – indeed: the deed is done, and we rejoice in it: he is risen indeed: Alleluia!

*Vicky*



## From the churchwardens



We wanted to start this update with some good news! Our faculty application to have the church bell repaired has now been approved by the Diocesan Chancellor. Money for the repairs has been kindly gifted and our order has now been placed with Taylor's of Loughborough, the famous bell foundry. We will keep you informed of further developments, but the bell should be ringing out a welcome again before much longer.

Wasn't it lovely to get back in church for the Mothering Sunday services? We are incredibly lucky to have been able to use the Parish Hall for services whilst the church heating is broken and those services have a different kind of appeal. However, nothing compares to that very special peace and calm that worship in our beautiful church gives us. How wonderful to hear the organ and choir in situ again. Thank you to Iain and our choir for the lovely music and hymns. Work to research a replacement heating system is under way but will of course take time.

We're fast approaching the Annual General Meeting and the allocation of roles and responsibilities for the new church year. Are you interested in joining our PCC, or taking on other voluntary roles like church warden, sides people duties, serving teas and coffees, flower arranging? If so, do please speak to us.

On a final note, have you been enjoying the recent period of unseasonably warm, sunny weather? Its been wonderful to hear the birds singing loudly, to see the spring bulbs in flower and all the hedges starting to turn green. Unfortunately, some less welcome pests have also sprung to life again – scam artists! E-mails purporting to be from Revd Vicky have been circulating, so do please be careful. Please always check the sender's e-mail address before replying to any unsolicited e-mails and do not click on any links unless you are absolutely sure of their validity. Please report any suspicious e-mails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). These will then be investigated by the National Cyber Security Centre. Please keep safe.

*June and Patsy*

**Where hardship means hunger... urban farmers can grow hope.**



*Fridah with her grandson, Quillan, outside their house in Dagoretti, Nairobi.*

In the crowded and noisy settlements of Nairobi, most parents wake every single day knowing that they must go and earn money, otherwise their children won't eat that evening.

With no formal work opportunities, heartbreakingly low pay, and no social support, it's a precarious and frightening daily struggle that no family should have to face.

The aching hunger is bad enough. The relentless stress is overwhelming.

'When I wake up, I have a lot of worries. Sometimes I don't have food,' says Fridah Moraa, a recently widowed grandmother determined to support her family on what little she earns. 'Now I'm responsible for everything.' With school costs, rent and water to cover, providing food for every meal is a problem that never goes away.'

But Fridah's faith in God, and in her own ability to provide, is unwavering. With tools, seeds and specialist training from Christian Aid's partner, Beacon of Hope, Fridah's now making the most of a small space in the city to grow a steady supply of fresh vegetables that she can cook for her family or sell on her market stall. Reflecting on her new role in life, Fridah says: 'I never thought that a woman could also be a provider.'



*Fridah tends her small city plot, tucked away at the end of an alley by her home in Dagoretti.*

With her inner strength, unstoppable resolve, and a little help from Beacon of Hope, Fridah's overcoming poverty to feed the youngest members of her family and protect them from the threat of malnutrition.

Fridah rightly takes pride in all she's achieving: 'When I harvest what I've planted, it makes me happy. Urban farming has changed my life.'

**At All Saints' we shall be collecting for Christian Aid at our services on 10<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May.**

**You can also give online at <https://caw.christianaid.org.uk/>**

## Notes on the PCC meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> February and 10<sup>th</sup> March

During the February meeting we looked at **dates and events** to come. We welcomed Revd Fr Kevin Crinks when he preached at our service on Ash Wednesday. A Lent Group was planned and arrangements were in place for Mothering Sunday and Easter.

In March we heard that feedback on the **Soup and Sandwich Lunch** had been very positive. We collected 87kg of food for the Wirral Foodbank and also sent them a cheque for £140.

The failed **church heating** has been uppermost in everybody's mind. The long, slow process of replacing the heating has started. Temperatures and humidity readings have been collected, the Heating Checklist was completed (as required by the Diocese) and John Book, a Heating Engineer, has visited the church and produced his options report. When deciding on the best solution for a new heating system it is important that we show that we have examined all options and their impact on the environment. We also need to be able to afford to run it. John has been helpful in pointing out the limitations of some heating methods.

As a next step Airren Martin, the Diocese of **Chester's Net Zero Carbon** Project Officer, visited the church to discuss our options. The heating working party (The Vicar, the Churchwardens and the Treasurer) met Airren and discussed some of our particular issues and constraints with her. In their report the Diocese gave us a list of other options to consider. The Diocese has a strong preference for electric options.

The next step is to get a feeling for the **feasibility of different solutions** by approaching installers to get indicative costs (these would not be firm quotes - we will need to go out to tender at a later stage). We are being open-minded in our approach and are considering all options; our Faculty application will need to be tightly refined before taking it to the DAC. We need a warm church and we need a solution by October!

In February we heard that the **VAT recovery scheme** which has allowed Grade 2 (and above) churches to claim back up to £25,000 of VAT paid for work on the church is ending in March but it is being replaced by an equivalent, new scheme. We are still waiting to hear the details of the new scheme.

We were still holding **services in the Parish Hall** at the beginning of March. The majority of people coming to the services thought it was fine in the hall. People were feeling the cold and, especially the older people, need warmth. There are some positives: the choir are nearer to the congregation in the hall and it feels more inclusive, people mix more and talk to different people. More stay for refreshments after the service. On the other hand some miss the atmosphere of the church and it is a challenge to have to set up the hall

every week.

I am pleased to say that on **Mothering Sunday** we wrapped up warmly, did the best we could with the temporary heaters and were able to hold the services in the church. The beautifully wrapped primulas cheered us all up and we didn't notice the chill in the air. Thank you to Margaret Gamble for getting them and to her team for making them look so attractive. We now need a lot of sunshine to warm the church in the coming weeks.

The PCC approved the **Annual Report** in March. Vicky thanked all those who had contributed to it and commented that *"The report smiles at you and makes you want to look into it."* The Annual Report will be circulated before the Annual Meetings which are in May.

In an update to the Fabric Report (in March) June told us that the faculty for the **repair of the church bell** has been approved and the money to pay for it has been gifted. We are waiting for the bell specialist company to come back to us with dates but hopefully it won't be too long before we hear it ringing again.

The Fabric Team have a maintenance programme which is working well. The **Quinquennial Inspection** is overdue and the Archdeacon, Mike Gilbertson, has arranged to come on 12<sup>th</sup> May. Jennifer Chambers, the Church Architect, will attend.

Reporting on the **finances** Iain Stinson, the Treasurer, told us that income from planned giving is down. It can be slow at the beginning of the year. In January we reached the limit for **Gift Aid recovery** on open plate donations and envelopes for which we do not have a Gift Aid Declaration (up to £30 each gift). This is capped at £8,000 per tax year and we are losing the Gift Aid on about £300/£400 per month at the moment. We will not be able to claim this again until after 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026. It would be very beneficial to us if people who pay enough tax signed Gift Aid forms if they haven't already done so.

The church has received a legacy of £4,000: £2,000 to support the work of the church and £2,000 to help with the maintenance of the Raby Road Graveyard. We are very grateful for this.

With the Annual meetings fast approaching Vicky said she was enormously grateful to all the PCC members for what they did. Some people had been serving for many, many years and were ready to step down. It has been good to get some new faces on the PCC this year, and looking to the future, it would be beneficial if we could get more people coming forward with a fresh perspective. Please think whether, with God's help, you could give some of your time to assist in taking the church forward.

**Sue Stinson**  
**PCC Secretary**

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## Our Parish Pubs!

Most residents of the parish are probably well acquainted with our two ‘locals’ – The Seven Stars and The Wheatsheaf, better known to some as ‘The Thatch’. But at one time there were as many as six places in the parish where you could go for a refreshing pint. There may have been even more!

### The Seven Stars, Thornton Hough



The Seven Stars dates from at least the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. Its earliest licensee recorded in the Cheshire Archives was Richard Cranshall in 1754, although there was an ‘ale house keeper’, Thomas Goodyker, somewhere in the area as early as the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Landlords often had other occupations: in 1850 the licensee Joseph Dunn, is recorded

as ‘Shopkeeper & Victualler’.

The Stars stands on the original turnpike road, opened in 1787, connecting Neston with Woodside Ferry. Although it was not a toll house, it did have a weighbridge, seen on the left of this picture, for checking the horse-drawn vehicles using the road.

Theories for the origin of its name vary. One suggestion was that an 18<sup>th</sup> century landlord, Henry Herbert, *Victualler & proprietor of the public weighing machine*, had seven sons in honour of whom he named it. But the name existed long before he took over. More likely it reflects its rural position. The “Seven Stars” refers to the constellation of Ursa Major, commonly known as The Plough. It is the fifth most common pub name in Britain and is thought to signify that the pub was located close to where the community plough was kept. Artists would then use the seven stars when illustrating pub signs, and the name then evolved into ‘The Seven Stars’.

### The Wheatsheaf, Raby

Apparently Wirral’s oldest pub, The Wheatsheaf was rebuilt in 1611 after a fire, and is said by some to be haunted by Charlotte who died in the fire. Grade II listed, it is renowned for its black and white exterior and thatched roof which gives rise to its familiar name.



But it may not have been the only pub in Raby. In the field on the opposite side of the road is a dilapidated sandstone building with a corrugated roof. Although there is apparently no firm evidence that it ever was an inn, it is known locally as **The Crows Foot Inn**



This Grade II listed timber-framed building was built in the 1600s. It is believed by locals to have once been a pub although there is no record that it ever held a licence. This picture was apparently taken in the early 1900s when the building was being lived in, possibly by the Wilson family who may have been the last residents. The building then was used for some

time as a chicken shed. Apparently it was once thatched, but is now unoccupied, and looking rather sorry for itself.

### **The Red Cat Inn, Brimstage**



Brimstage had its own pub. The Red Cat. It stood on what is now the village green and dated back to at least 1822. Together with the adjoining smithy, it was demolished in 1913 when the centre of the village was re-structured by the first Lord Leverhulme and the surrounding cottages built. Plans were drawn up for a new pub to be built at the far end of the green, but probably because of the Great

War, it never happened and the area was finally occupied by the Village Hall, erected in 1937 by the second Viscount.

The name was possibly based on an artist's impression of the red lion which appears in the coat of arms of the Domville family, who were granted permission to build a chapel in nearby Brimstage Hall in 1398. When the inn was never rebuilt, the name was transferred to the pub in Greasby, still known today as 'The Cat'.

### **The Pig and Whistle, Brimstage**

Now known as Rose Cottage, it stood on the corner as you leave the village. It was apparently operating as a beer house in 1850 but no other dates are known. This picture was originally given to me by June Smith, whose family once lived



there, and Mrs Job, whose husband farmed nearby at The Brooklet, confirmed that land behind the cottage was known by them as Pig and Whistle field.



... and finally, **The Rising Sun Inn, Clatterbridge**

Some of you probably drive past this old pub every day without realising. It stands alongside the Willaston Road just after the 30mph sign near to the driveway to Claire House. Now a private residence, it dates back to at least 1767 when the licensee

was a Jonathon Pover.

Recorded on Bryant's 1831 map of Wirral simply as 'The Sun', some older ordnance survey maps appear to describe it as 'Clatterbridge Farm' which ties in with the last recorded licensee, William Williams, farmer!

There may of course be others yet to be discovered. Who knows!

*Gavin Hunter*



**All Saints' Church,  
Thornton Hough**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**Toybox meets in the Parish Hall  
from 10am to 11:30am**



**£2 per family**

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

This is the night mail crossing the Border,  
Bringing the cheque and the postal order,  
Letters for the rich, letters for the poor,  
The shop at the corner, the girl next door.  
Pulling up Beattock, a steady climb:  
The gradient's against her, but she's on time.  
Past cotton-grass and moorland boulder  
Shovelling white steam over her shoulder,  
Snorting noisily as she passes  
Silent miles of wind-bent grasses.

Birds turn their heads as she approaches,  
Stare from bushes at her blank-faced coaches.  
Sheep-dogs cannot turn her course;  
They slumber on with paws across.  
In the farm she passes no one wakes,  
But a jug in a bedroom gently shakes.

Dawn freshens, Her climb is done.  
Down towards Glasgow she descends,  
Towards steam tugs yelping down a glade of cranes  
Towards fields of apparatus, the furnaces  
Set on the dark plain like gigantic chessmen.  
All Scotland waits for her:  
In the dark glens, beside the pale-green lochs  
Men long for news.

Letters of thanks, letters from banks,  
Letters of joy from girl and boy,  
Receipted bills and invitations  
To inspect new stock or to visit relations,  
And applications for situations,  
And timid lovers' declarations,  
And gossip, gossip from all the nations,  
News circumstantial, news financial,  
Letters with holiday snaps to enlarge in,  
Letters with faces scrawled on the margin,  
Letters from uncles, cousins, and aunts,  
Letters to Scotland from the South of France,

Letters of condolence to Highlands and Lowlands  
Notes from overseas to the Hebrides  
Written on paper of every hue,  
The pink, the violet, the white and the blue,  
The chatty, the catty, the boring, the adoring,  
The cold and official and the heart's outpouring,  
Clever, stupid, short and long,  
The typed and the printed and the spelt all wrong.

Thousands are still asleep,  
Dreaming of terrifying monsters  
Or of friendly tea beside the band in Cranston's or Crawford's:  
Asleep in working Glasgow,  
Asleep in well-set Edinburgh,  
Asleep in granite Aberdeen,  
They continue their dreams,  
But shall wake soon and hope for letters,  
And none will hear the postman's knock  
Without a quickening of the heart,  
For who can bear to feel himself forgotten?





In 1935 W. H. Auden (1907 - 1973) and Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976) were commissioned by the Royal Mail to produce poetry and music to accompany a promotional 22 minute film about the mail train which took and sorted mail from all over England to Scotland every night.



Although mail had been carried by train since 1830, and sorted on the train since 1838, it was not until 1866 that leather bags of mail could be collected and dropped off all along the way without stopping the train.



*Mail bag ready to be caught in train's net*

The fascinating 1936 film can be seen on the Internet, and Auden's poem and Britten's music round off the detailed commentary, in which carriages from main towns join the train



*Travelling Post Office 1934*

until there are ten or twelve Travelling Post Offices, with up to

forty workers rapidly tipping bundles out of bags, sorting them into new bundles and dropping them off and collecting more. Five hundred million letters a year, a thousand sorted on every night Postal Special train, every night.

Auden's poem mimics the rhythms of the wheels, as you hear the locomotive speeding up, crossing rails, and slowing down for the famous 1,000 foot climb to Beattock Summit in Dumfries and Galloway, where some trains needed help from a local tank engine.



*Dual currency postal order, bought from a post office, to use instead of a cheque by someone with no bank account.*

The poem is also a poignant reminder of the time before



*Glasgow's famous blast furnaces powering Clyde shipbuilding etc.*

the Internet took over, and people communicated by letter, postcard and mail order catalogue. Post travelled fast and people looked forward to it. The last time post was sorted on a train was in 2004.

Auden's imaginative descriptions, of the train "shovelling white steam over her shoulder" with her "blank-faced coaches" (no windows punctuated the walls of pigeon holes) and "steam tugs yelping down a glade of cranes".

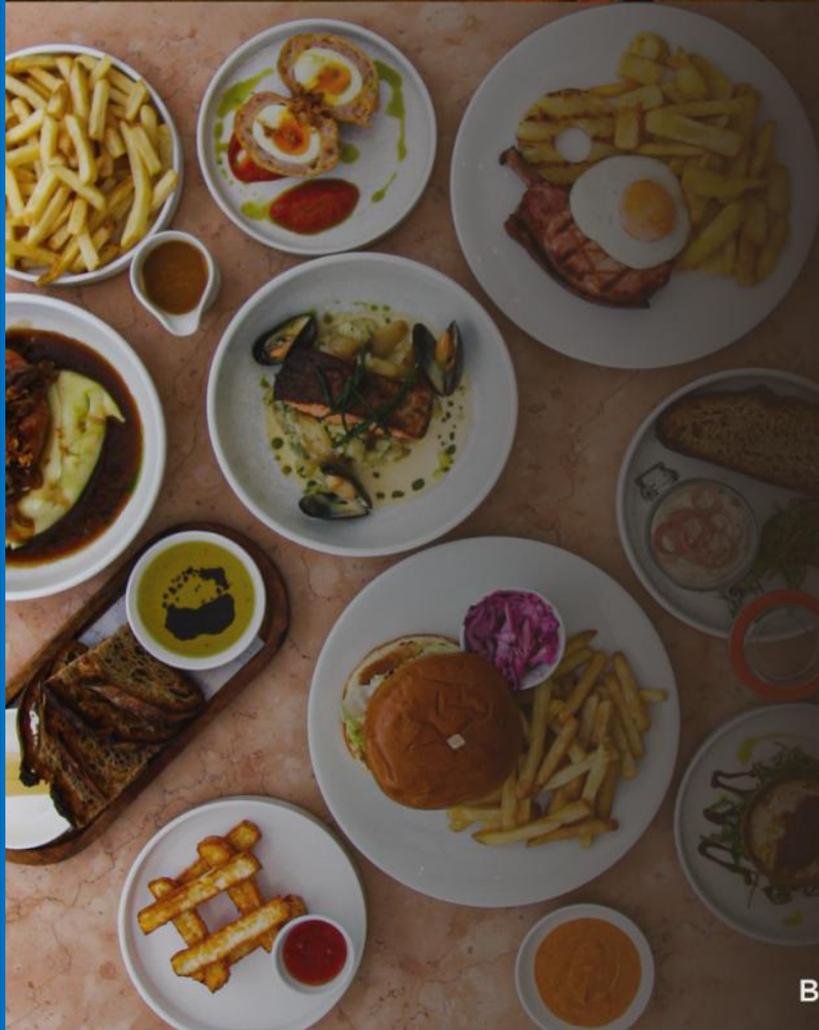
conjure a vivid picture of industry in the service of human happiness.

***Caroline Lancelyn Green***



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

## 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 29*

Can you identify each of these UK wild flowers?



## Quiz (set by ChatGPT)

1. What year did the Berlin Wall fall?
2. Who wrote the novel *1984*?
3. What is the chemical symbol for silver?
4. Which planet is closest to the Sun?
5. Who was the first female Prime Minister of the United Kingdom?
6. What is the largest desert on Earth?
7. How many squares are there on a standard chessboard?
8. What language has the most native speakers worldwide?
9. In which year did the first iPhone launch?
10. What is the currency of Switzerland?
11. Which artist painted *The Starry Night*?
12. What's the longest river in the world?
13. Who discovered penicillin?
14. What is the capital city of Canada?
15. Which country hosted the 2016 Summer Olympics?
16. What is the main ingredient in traditional Japanese miso soup?
17. Who directed the film *Inception*?
18. What is the heaviest naturally occurring element on the periodic table?
19. Who composed the *Four Seasons*?
20. What is the smallest prime number?
21. What does DNA stand for?
22. Which planet has the most moons?
23. In which country would you find the ancient city of Petra?
24. What's the world's largest ocean?
25. What is the tallest mountain in the world above sea level?

## New Testament places

Can you find the twenty one place names from the New Testament in this grid?

*If you want to know the names, then look on page 19.*

**Solutions on page 29**

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

## Team Players Needed!

It is good to see so many people coming to church, whether we're meeting in church or the Parish Hall, and whether you've been coming for years or only just started to explore your Christian faith and calling. If you have not yet filled out one of our Electoral Roll forms, please consider adding your name if you are eligible. Once on the Electoral Roll, you are able to vote at Annual Meetings and be part of the PCC and/or Diocesan Synod.

Our Annual Meetings on 10<sup>th</sup> May after our morning service give us the chance to celebrate all that has happened in 2025 and to look to a new year, with a new PCC.

The PCC is our Parochial Church Council – the team who support the Vicar and oversee the planning and mission of All Saints'. We have a number of spaces for new members! You may not think that you have any special talents or skills, but fresh pairs of eyes and a willingness to participate in developing how we grow our church family and ensure that we run our organisation safely and efficiently will be an asset. Please note that as Trustees of All Saints', all PCC members must have an enhanced DBS check and undertake Church of England Safeguarding training.

I am enormously grateful for the work of our PCC Secretary, Sue Stinson, over many years. She is now wanting to take a well-earned rest from this role, and a new PCC Secretary will be required. Could that be you?

Patsy Baker has been a most supportive Churchwarden for the last two years and would also like to step down. Could you be one of our Churchwardens for 2026-7?

All Saints' Church is able to have three lay representatives at the Wirral South Deanery Synod. Nominations and voting for these roles will also be part of our Annual Parochial Church Meeting this year. The Synod meets three times a year and gives representatives the opportunity to find out more about some of the developments in the Diocese and wider church, and hear from some interesting topical speakers, as well as worship together.

Do contact the Vicar, Churchwardens June and Patsy, or Sue for further information.



Some of the team preparing the flowers for Mothering Sunday.

### Thornton Hough Primary School

Thornton Hough Primary School seeks a Co-opted Governor to join the Governing Body. It is an extremely rewarding role to help serve in our community. For further details, please contact Geoff Dale, Chair of Governors: [daleg@thorntonhough.wirral.sch.uk](mailto:daleg@thorntonhough.wirral.sch.uk)

#### *Names of places in the New Testament (Wordsearch)*

Antioch	Athens	Bethany	Bethlehem
Caesarea	Cana	Corinth	Corinth
Damascus	Emmaus	Ephesus	Jerusalem
Joppa	Lystra	Nazareth	Paphos
Pergamos	Philippi	Salamis	Sidon
Tyre			

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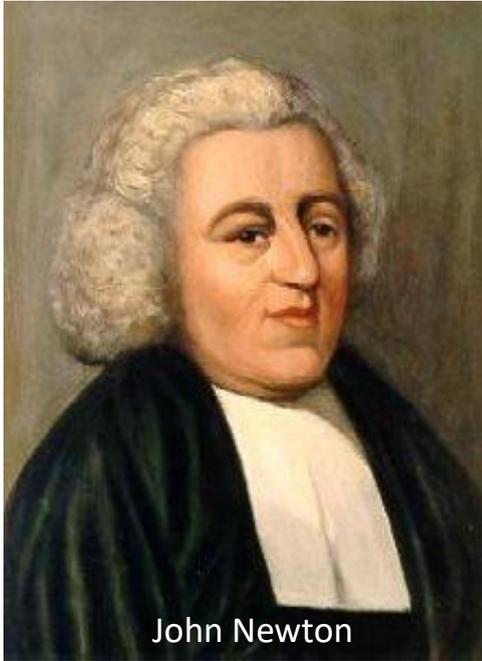
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## Origin of Hymns No 13: *Amazing Grace*

One of the most popular hymns sung all over the world is 'Amazing Grace', and I was very surprised to find that its author began his career in a rather different field. John Newton was born in Stepney in 1725 to a devout non-conformist mother (Hannah Saywell) and father (Robert Newton) who was a merchant sea captain. His mother died of tuberculosis when he was 7, so from an early age John accompanied his father at sea. At 18 he joined the navy on HMS Harwich,



John Newton

but after attempting to desert, he was sent aboard a passing slave vessel. He served on various ships involved in the slave trade, and whilst aboard, educated himself in Latin and Geometry, and became a master of navigation.

Although some of his mother's Christian education stayed with him, he had largely abandoned his religion until in 1748, but whilst guiding his near-foundering ship through a fierce storm, he felt the stirrings of a renewed faith and prayed regularly. However he didn't see any conflict between his faith and occupation and captained three voyages trafficking slaves from Africa to the West Indies

between 1750 and 1754. He then gave up the slave trade and for a while became a tide surveyor in Liverpool. In 1749 he had married the very pious Mary Catlett from Lincolnshire. They had a son Thomas and a daughter Ann (both born in Coningsby, Lincs). He gradually gravitated to a religious profession, being influenced by John and Charles Wesley, and was ordained in the Anglican church in 1764, aged 39, becoming Curate at St Peter and Paul, Olney in Bucks, a post which he took very seriously.

In 1767 the poet William Cowper settled in Olney, and he and John began a long friendship. In 1779 they produced a volume called the 'Olney Hymns' (280 by Newton, 68 by Cowper). The three best known being 'Amazing Grace', 'How sweet the name of Jesus sounds', and 'Glorious Things of Thee are spoken'. Maybe the second line of

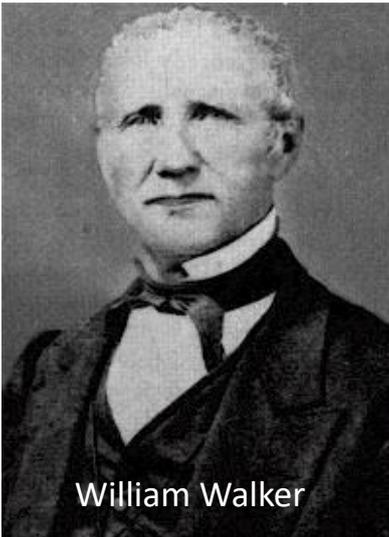


Olney Vicarage

'Amazing Grace' 'that saved a wretch like me' refers to his early life.

He later moved to London, and in 1785 met William Wilberforce, expressing remorse for his previous occupation and helped to found the Anti-Slavery society in 1787, in which he became very active.

He preached until his death in London aged 82 in 1807, nine months after the abolition of slavery by Parliament, though by then he was frail and blind. He was buried in Olney.



William Walker

In Olney it was not known what music was used for the hymn. The first known tune was 'Hephzibah' by John Hudson in 1808, though many C.M. (common metre) tunes were available. In 1835 an American composer William Walker set our hymn to a tune he called 'New Britain'- an amalgamation of two tunes 'Gallaher' and 'St Mary'. It was thought that the tunes were British, hence the name 'New Britain'. This tune, as we know today first appeared in 1847 in Walker's tune book 'Southern Harmony'. It was stated by a prominent author to be a 'marriage made in heaven', saying there was a sense of awe to it, and the music did sound graceful.

*Brian Moate*



## **The Parkland and Walled Gardens of Poulton Hall CH63 9LN**

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## Inspiration for some well known lyrics



The Austrian region of Lungau is perhaps best known for the skiing at Obertauern and for the number of hours of sun. The latter has certainly been true whenever we have visited.

The area is steeped in history - both ancient and modern - and is a typical alpine area with beautiful valleys, lots of farming and forestry. The views are spectacular with

footpaths and ski runs galore to help the visitor make the most of it all.

Nestled in the midst of the area is a quiet town called Mariapfarr. The village originated in 923AD and is home to a beautiful Romanesque/gothic church that has the usual (for southern Austria) ornate altar and no heating! It dominates the local skyline and continues to strike the quarter hour and remind the village when it is time to head to church - the bells are not quiet!



The village has a very famous son - although most have probably never heard of him but will certainly have heard and/or sung his lyrics!

In 1816 Joseph Mohr wrote a poem while living in Mariapfarr.

In 1818, while he was working as an assistant priest in Oberndorf, near Salzburg, he asked Franz Xaver Gruber to compose a melody to fit the text that he already had, for two voices. The organ in the church, St Nicholas, was broken. Later, the same day - Christmas Eve 1818, Mohr and Gruber performed *Stille Nacht* in the Christmas Mass. Mohr sang tenor and played the guitar, whilst Gruber sang the bass. It is a short timeframe to create a melody that is now so famous.

Initially the song was spread from village to village by an organ builder called Karl Mauracher who was repairing the organ at the church. It was then picked up by Tyrolean folk-singing families who popularised the song throughout Europe and the USA in the 1830's. It is now translated into over 300 languages. The rest, as they say, is history! The village celebrates the carol with information boards - the lyrics in German, English and Spanish.





And to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary they erected a fountain - sadly not flowing in winter due to the cold. Mohr sits atop the world!

In 2011 UNESCO declared Stille Nacht to be an *Intangible Cultural Heritage*. It was also sung famously by German, English and French troops during the Christmas truce of World War 1.

For a small place, it has had a significant impact on Christmas music, that will continue for generations to come. The village celebrates the carol every Christmas as part of their Advent festivities.

It is often the quiet places that provide inspiration in ways that you might not imagine!



*Ann Slee Jones*



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## Solutions

### Quiz answers

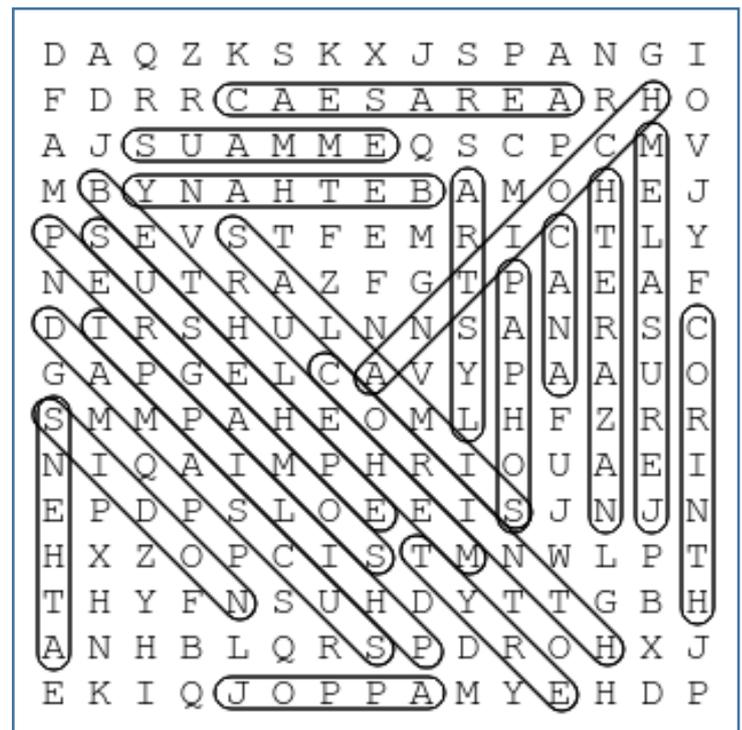
1. 1989
2. George Orwell
3. Ag
4. Mercury
5. Margaret Thatcher
6. Antarctica
7. 64
8. Mandarin Chinese
9. 2007
10. Swiss Franc
11. Vincent van Gogh
12. Nile River
13. Alexander Fleming
14. Ottawa
15. Brazil
16. Soybean paste
17. Christopher Nolan
18. Uranium
19. Antonio Vivaldi
20. 2
21. Deoxyribonucleic acid
22. Jupiter
23. Jordan
24. Pacific Ocean
25. Mount Everest

### Wild flowers

1. Field Bindweed
2. Shepherd's Purse
3. Ragged Robin
4. Coltsfoot
5. Bladder Campion
6. Germander Speedwell
7. Scarlet Pimpernel
8. Cowslip
9. Lady's Smock

## Sudoku

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



## New Testament Places

### Wordsearch

## COOKERY CORNER

### Savoury Meat Roll

#### *Filling*

1 large onion  
2 large tomatoes  
8 oz minced cooked meat or corned beef  
1 oz cooking fat  
Pinch mixed herbs  
Seasoning

Fry chopped onion and chopped tomatoes till soft.

Add the meat, herbs and seasoning.

Make the pastry by rubbing the fat into the flour and seasoning. Add the mashed potato, knead firmly adding a very little water to give a firm dough.

Roll the pastry into 2 oblong shapes. Spread one with meat mixture and cover with the other. Seal the edges, score the top with 3 or 4 slots and bake at 220°C, 400°F, Gas 6 for 35 to 40 mins.

Serve hot with green veg or cold sliced with salad.

#### *Potato pastry*

4 oz mashed potato  
4oz flour  
3 oz cooking fat  
Seasoning



### Easter Egg Cake

8 oz butter or marg.  
8 oz sugar  
4 eggs.  
10 oz plain flour  
2 oz finest semolina  
8 oz sultanas  
1 teaspoon baking powder

Cream the butter and sugar till light and fluffy. Add the eggs beating well after adding each one. Add the sultanas and then the flour and semolina.

Mix well 180°C, 350°F, Gas 3 for 30 mins, then lower the temperature to 150°C, 300°F Gas 2 for ¾ to 1 hour.

Turn out on to a cooling tray.

When cold, trim one to form a level base and sandwich together with jam, trimming as necessary to fit neatly together to make an egg shape.

Cover with chocolate butter icing or melted chocolate.

#### *Chocolate butter icing*

Cream 2 oz butter with 4 oz icing sugar.  
Add 1 level tablespoon cocoa or chocolate powder.



## From the Registers

### Baptisms

8<sup>th</sup> February 2026 William Richard JACKSON

7<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Annella Mae LAND

### Burials

12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Kenneth Roy WHIELDON

15<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Brian 'Bart' EDMONDSON (Ashes)

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 Alan JONES

## Annual Parish Meetings Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May

These will take place on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 11:45am, following the 10:30am service. Please make it a priority to attend these important meetings. Nomination forms for churchwardens, and PCC members and will be available at the back of church. Please consider who might be able to serve in one of these roles at All Saints'. For further information please contact the Vicar, Churchwardens or PCC Secretary. Copies of the Agenda for the meetings, the Annual Report and the Accounts for 2025 will be available to collect from church towards the end of April (and on the church website).

## Electoral Roll

If you are not on our Electoral Roll but consider yourself a regular at our services or live in the parish, then you are encouraged to complete an Electoral Roll form. By being on our Electoral Roll, you are entitled to vote at our Annual Meetings, and be on the PCC. It's also a simple way of saying, "Yes, this is my church."

Electoral Roll application forms are available at the back of church. Please return completed forms to one of the church wardens, to our Electoral Roll Officer, to the PCC Secretary or to the Vicar. Completed forms should be received by Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April to enable you to take part in the Annual Meetings.

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  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May**



## Bible Readings

### April—May

#### April

2	<b>Maunder Thursday</b> 1 Corinthians 11:23-36	John 13: 1-17, 31b-35
3	<b>Good Friday</b> Isaiah 52:13-53:12	John 18:1-40
5	<b>Easter Day</b> Acts 10:34-43	John 20:1-18
12	<b>Second Sunday of Easter</b> Acts 2:14a, 22-32	John 10:19-31
19	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b> Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Luke 24:13-35
26	<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b> Acts 2:42-47	John 10:1-10

#### May

3	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> Acts 7:55-60	John 14:1-14
10	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> Acts 17:22-31	John 14:15-21
14	<b>Ascension Day</b> Acts 1:15-26	Luke 24:44-53
17	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> Acts 1:6-14	John 17:1-11
24	<b>Pentecost</b> Acts 2:1-21	John 20:19-23
31	<b>Trinity Sunday</b> 2 Corinthians 13:11-14	Matthew 28:16-20

#### June

7	<b>First Sunday of Trinity</b> Romans 4:13-25	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-36
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#### A verse from the Bible

Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live"

(John 11:25)

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

# WILKINS

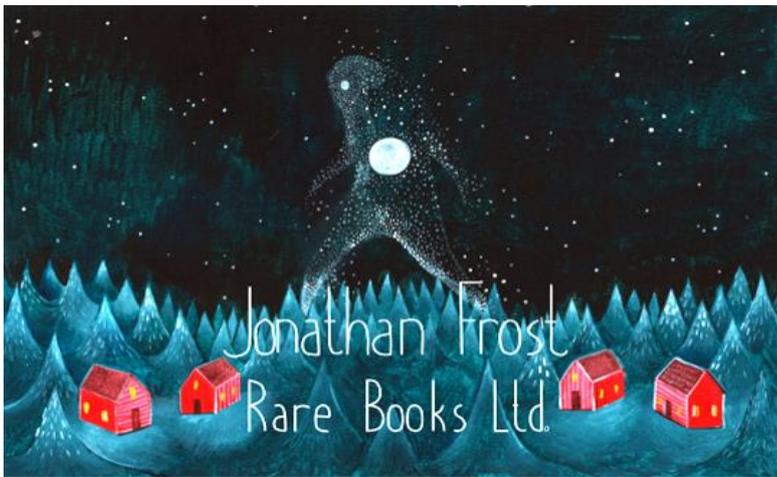
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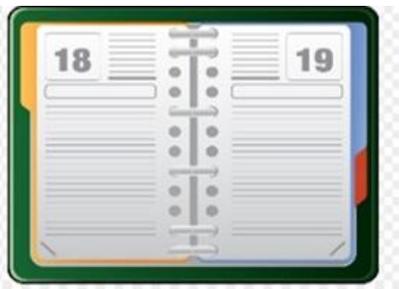
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# Parish Diary

## April—May

### March

28 Saturday

29 **Sunday** **Palm Sunday**  
10:30am Holy Communion

### April

1 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion

2 Thursday Maundy Thursday  
7:00pm Holy Communion

3 Friday Good Friday  
10:30am Good Friday Meditation  
7:00pm Choir Practice

5 **Sunday** **Easter Sunday**  
8:00am Holy Communion  
10:30am Holy Communion

6 Monday Bank Holiday

8 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion

12 **Sunday** **Second Sunday of Easter**  
10:30am Holy Communion  
6:30pm Choral Evensong

13 Monday 10:00am Toybox

14 Tuesday 7:30pm PCC Meeting

15 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion

17 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice

19 **Sunday** **Third Sunday of Easter**  
8:00am Holy Communion  
10:30am Holy Communion

22 Wednesday 10:30am Coffee Morning

24 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice

26 **Sunday** **Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
10:30am Holy Communion  
29 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion

### May

1 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice

## May

3	Sunday	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	8:00am Holy Communion 10:30am Holy Communion
4	Monday	Bank Holiday	
6	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
8	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
10	Sunday	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	10:30am Holy Communion 11:45am Annual Church Meetings <i>Start of Christian Aid Week</i>
11	Monday	10:00am	Toybox
12	Tuesday	7:00pm	PCC Meeting
13	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
14	Thursday	Ascension Day	7:00pm Holy Communion Parish Magazine deadline (June - July)
15	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
16	Saturday		<i>End of Christian Aid Week</i>
17	Sunday	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	8:00am Holy Communion 10:30am Holy Communion
20	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
22	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
24	Sunday	<b>Pentecost</b>	10:30am Holy Communion
25	Monday	Bank Holiday	
27	Wednesday	10:30am	Coffee Morning
29	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
31	Sunday	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>	10:30am Holy Communion

## June

3	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
5	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
7	Sunday	<b>First Sunday in Trinity</b>	8:00am Holy Communion 10:30am Holy Communion

## Who's who at All Saints

<b>Vicar</b>	<b>Revd Vicky Barrett</b>	336 2766 vicar@allsaintsth.org.uk <i>The Vicar's normal day off is Friday.</i>
<b>Churchwardens</b>	<b>June Allcock</b>	353 1079 june@allsaintsth.org.uk
	<b>Patsy Baker</b>	336 3273 patsy@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	<b>Linda Arch</b>	safeguarding@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Verger</b>	<b>Margaret Gamble</b>	336 7540
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	<b>Sue Stinson</b>	342 4800 sue@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	<b>Iain Stinson</b>	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
		336 1393 brimorris@sky.com
<b>Planned Giving Secretary</b>	<b>Brian Morris</b>	
<b>PCC Electoral Roll Office</b>	<b>Tom Mairs</b>	
<b>Health &amp; Safety Officer</b>	<b>June Allcock</b>	353 1079 june@allsaintsth.org.uk
<b>Parish Hall Caretaker and Bookings</b>	<b>Margaret Gamble</b>	336 7540
		342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
<b>Director of Music</b>	<b>Iain Stinson</b>	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
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**[www.allsaintsth.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsth.org.uk)**

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