

**All Saints' Church Thornton Hough**

# **The Magazine**



**October - November 2021**



## Welcome letter from the Vicar

### Where did the time go?

Can it really be autumn already? Winter is at the door! How has the year rushed round so fast – again? It hardly seems a moment since we were looking out at bare trees, anticipating the coming of spring, and now the evenings are darkening and we are making plans for Christmas.



Our language is full of references to things happening at speed: nipping out to the shops, dashing out for something, firing off an email, running someone home in the car; we have now learned to communicate online via Zoom. Things happen in split-seconds, moments, a flash.

It is only now that we have been able to meet with friends and loved ones after such a long period apart that we see how our younger family members in particular have grown. A babe in arms who we saw eighteen months ago is now walking and chattering away confidently, or, it seems, packing up to go to university. Where did the time go?

Yet however much we try to pack so much into our days, or however much we mourn the fact that the year has gone by so fast, we cannot control the passage of time. The Psalmist has a beautiful way to express this: “My times are in your hands.” (Psalm 31:15) If time feels to be rushing by a little too quickly for you, then this phrase from the Psalms can be one to remember.

As our thoughts turn towards our periods of remembrance, for loved ones lost in the last year and for those who have given their lives to serve their country in times of conflict, and as we begin the season of Advent, we are reminded of the gift of time. The gift of time spent with loved ones, the gift of time given by those who made the ultimate sacrifice, and the gift of God who, in his good time, prepares us to receive the gift of his Son, Jesus.

With love and blessings

*Vicky*



## Notes on the PCC meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September

The churchwardens have been busy **recruiting sidespeople** and Pam reported that they now have several volunteers. When the time is right they will get everyone together to go through the duties, possibly followed by afternoon tea!

**The boundary wall repair.** Vicky has applied to the Leverhulme Charitable Trust for assistance in rebuilding the wall. The PCC are very grateful to the Trust for giving us £16,000 towards the repair, and also to Vicky for her work in submitting the application. A very generous donation of £3,000 which, with Gift Aid becomes £4,000, has also been received from the Gault family. These donations are helping to ease the pressure on the church's finances. Vicky is now looking at another potential donor for further funding.

All permissions are now in place and we can now proceed with removing the remains of the holm oak, giving the go ahead to a contractor and rebuilding the wall. We have undertaken to plant another holm oak in the churchyard. The tree specialist will also be consulted on removing the sumachs which are springing up in unwanted places and which have the potential to cause further damage to the wall.

**Harvest.** Pam reported that preparations for the Harvest Thanksgiving were going well. Do Mosedale was being very helpful in organising the lunch and Pam had already been shopping. 42 people had signed up for the lunch so far.

Donations will be sent to the Wirral Foodbank. A shopping list had been suggested of things which are specifically required and this had appeared in the magazine and on the pew sheet. Vicky expressed a willingness to take the items to the foodbank in the week after the Harvest Thanksgiving Service.

**Review of regular church activities.** One of the home groups has recently started up again. Vicky commented that it would be good to encourage more fellowship groups- in homes, on a bench, in the pub...

**Cots2tots:** the problems of social distancing, cleaning and disinfecting, a shortage of helpers and the vulnerability of our helpers is making it difficult to run this at the moment. We need to be sure that we can run a safe and secure environment. It was decided to wait until the spring before reviewing what we were able to do. The possibility of an event on the Green with parents and their children was suggested.

**The Sunday children's group** is also not running at the moment. Some children come to church occasionally and we cope. The PCC considered what else we could be doing. Vicky is going to approach the local Rainbow, Brownie and Guide groups and the school to see how we can engage with them.

The PCC welcomed the **re-starting of ACF**. They had held their first meeting; coffee mornings are also starting up soon.

**Special services through Autumn.** We have held our first evening service since the beginning of the pandemic. One-off events which are seasonal could be the way forward at the moment.

There may well be a lot of people wanting to attend the **All Souls' Service for the Faithful Departed** (on 31<sup>st</sup> October) this year because number of people allowed to attend funerals has been restricted.

Remembrance will be different this year. St George's has closed, and the British Legion has been disbanded in the area. Vicky is approaching the Village Trust this week to see what their expectations are. It should be a village event, not just an All Saints' event.

**St George's.** John Oldershaw, on behalf of the URC Synod, is coordinating what happens next at St George's; there will be a public consultation about this in the Parish Hall in the coming months.

**Social activities and fundraising.** It is too soon to run another Christmas Fair because of problems with social distancing but Margaret Gamble suggested that we could have **an event in the Spring**, with tables outside in the grounds and inside the Parish Hall, selling sweets, cakes etc. A plant and seed swap was also suggested.

Iain Stinson suggested that we could run a **special coffee morning just before Christmas** with timed sessions starting at 10:00am and 11:15am. Tickets could be sold in advance. Coffee and mince pies could be served, and the choir might be persuaded to lead carols (including action carols such as the Twelve Days of Christmas and other secular songs.) We could have a raffle and stalls. Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December was suggested as the best time.

An **Easter Egg hunt and/or a mini beast hunt** could be held around Easter.

The Guides and Brownies might be persuaded to come to a Mothering Sunday Service, an Advent Service and a Remembrance Service. They could be encouraged to help at the services and possibly use it for a badge. (At one time the Brownies used to serve the refreshments in the Village Hall after the Remembrance Day Service.)

**The Hope Programme.** The church has been approached to ask whether we could provide a venue for a group of male cancer patients to meet together for support. The Hope Programme, which is run on the Wirral by Macmillan with input from Clatterbridge Hospital, would organise the sessions. Macmillan do not have any funding and need a room free of charge.

It was agreed that they could use the Small Hall for six weeks on a Wednesday afternoon, starting in October. This should not impact on the ACF meetings.

**Finance.** Iain Stinson, the Treasurer, reported that the financial outlook was a little better than had been predicted. The actual deficit to-date was £5,329, which is better than the £8,001 projected deficit. Open plate giving is up; the standing order and envelope giving was up on previous months and only 3% down on the previous year. The figures were boosted by the receipt of the investment income; this is still in decline and lower than the figure in the budget.

ACF have requested that their finances are managed as part of the church finances rather than as a separate bank account. Their money has been transferred and a special ACF fund set up within the finance system. A designated fund has also been set up for the wall money.

**Safeguarding.** There are no safeguarding concerns. Linda Arch is seeking advice from the Diocese on which roles require DBS checking. The new Bishop of Birkenhead will be overseeing safeguarding for the Diocese.

**Fabric.** A missing slate (which caused a leak), gutter clearing and the cutting back of foliage to clear the air bricks, vents and drains are all high priority for the Fabric Team at the moment.

Bill Brennan sadly died in July and there are now **92** names on the **Electoral Roll**.

As the meeting closed with the Grace we looked forward to signs of renewal and a gradual return to normality.

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

### **A little Humour**

A mother was struggling to get the ketchup out of the bottle when the phone rang. She asked her four year old daughter to answer it. She heard her daughter say, "Mummy can't come to the phone. She's hitting the bottle."



**ACF**

## **A church fellowship for anyone from anywhere**

We made it!

We welcomed 13 members back to ACF meetings on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September after being paused for many months after lockdown commenced in March 2020. It was great to be back and seeing so many friends on a lovely warm sunny afternoon. A few members sent in their apologies but hope to return in October so it is looking very promising for the future of the group. During our prayers we remembered June Smith, Freda Jenkins and Edith Shepherd who are greatly missed and also anyone known to us who is going through a difficult time at the moment.

We welcomed Ann Barlow from The Children's Society who spoke about its history and gave us an insight into the BEAM service.

The Children's Society was formed in 1881 when Edward Rudolf, a Sunday School teacher, saw the effects of poverty and decided to do something about it. After seeing two of his young pupils begging in the streets for food, he set up small Church of England homes for around 10 children aged 5 to 14 years in each. In the 1960s, with changes in attitude, the emphasis was more on supporting children within their own families in order to keep them at home.

Their vision is that every young person deserves a good childhood and they try and do this by:

- Reducing risk of exploitation, neglect and abuse
- Building resilience and emotional well-being of young people
- Giving support
- Providing resources for organisations such as church youth groups
- Driving campaigns
- Working within local communities

“The Good Childhood Report” for 2021 has just been released. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Report on well-being of children in UK. In this, children were asked for their own views of happiness on the following six measures:

- Life as whole
- Friends
- Appearances
- Family
- School
- School work

The results showed they were most unhappy with their appearance and school, and happiest with their school work. The biggest issues cited were bullying and teachers picking on them. Apart from a small group most felt they had coped well with Covid.

The BEAM project was set up in Telford and Midlands as a well-being drop-in service to provide support for young people aged 13 to 25 years by a team of practitioners and volunteers who will listen to whatever they have to say. The youngsters can use this service whenever needed without an appointment or referral. Nearly 1500 young people visited the service during 2019/2020 for anger issues, feeling anxious, difficulties/conflicts within family affecting mental health, depression/low mood and low self-esteem.

The Children's Society also works with:

Children's rights and advocacy, missing persons, child sexual exploitation, County Lines and criminal exploitation, refugees and migrants, poverty and young carers.

Ann then gave us some statistics for Wirral, which showed for the year 2020 there were 67,508 youngsters aged 0 to 17 and of these:

- 29% living in poverty
- There were 831 "looked after" children
- 376 care leavers
- 2830 identified as living in need
- 7209 identified as having mental health conditions.

This was a very informative and interesting talk which got us all thinking about our young people and lead to a lively discussion on education.

### [Forthcoming ACF events](#)

#### **Fellowship meetings**

Wednesday October 13<sup>th</sup> at 2.15pm in the Parish Hall

Dr Elly Macbeath – A journey on the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Wednesday November 10<sup>th</sup> at 2.15pm in the Parish Hall. *( To be confirmed)*

#### **Coffee Mornings**

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October and 24<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am in the Parish Hall.

Coffee/Sales table/raffle. Everybody welcome.

***Helen Tankard***



Thank you to all who came to our first ACF Coffee Morning for a long time. Why not join us next month?





# Harvest Thanksgiving



*Some of our guests enjoying their Harvest Lunch*





## Thank you for the Harvest: September 16<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>

A week of harvest thanksgiving was held between 16<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September. We accepted goods donated for the Wirral Foodbank as part of our thanksgiving. Items were left in the church porch or in the baskets at the back of church. These included specific items requested by the Foodbank such as:

Tinned fish, Tinned potatoes, Squash, Sugar, UHT milk, Instant mash, Coffee (small jars), Jam, Shampoo, Deodorant - many thanks for your contributions.

A delicious Harvest Buffet lunch after the morning services on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September was well attended. Many thanks to Do Mosedale, Pam Machin and Margaret Gamble for their work in preparing the meal. The donations were delivered to the Foodbank on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September by Revd Vicky.

## All Saints 2021: A service for remembering the faithful departed.

We remember with love those who have died during the last year. Families and friends of those who have lost a loved one during this time are invited to attend one of our two services of remembrance in the afternoon of Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> October, to be held at 2.30pm and again at 4.00pm. We will light a candle in memory of each of those we have lost and read their names. You will need to book a place for these services as we want to give you peace and space.

Please contact the Vicar for arrangements to book places.

## Helpers needed! Could one of them be YOU?

**Sidespeople** needed to help welcome people as they arrive in church and assist the Churchwardens.

**Helpers to join the Refreshments Rota.** Could you help make tea and coffee for people after the 10.30 Sunday service?

Please speak to **Pam Machin**, **Alan Splitt** or **Rev Vicky** if you would like to know more about either of these roles.



## Making Tracks – Discover the West Coast Main Line



An exciting model railway event chugged into Chester Cathedral this summer.

Created by railway enthusiast Pete Waterman OBE, and other enthusiasts, this presented a bespoke model railway that demonstrated the West Coast Main Line – a 74ft 'OO' model featuring the work of Thomas Brassey.



## Where are you making tracks

Thomas Brassey made many tracks in his lifetime: he built about one-third of the railways in Britain and one in every twenty miles of railway in the world. Tracks that allowed trains to move and people to travel.

Going on a journey by train, we buy a ticket, we know where we are going, we wait on the correct platform, we catch the train and then we relax, maybe enjoying looking out of the window as we race through cities, towns and countryside.

The journey through life is less controlled: when we were born, neither we nor our parents, had any idea where the tracks of life would lead us nor how, or with whom, we would travel.

Following the pandemic many people are looking for change, rethinking their jobs, where they live and their current lifestyle.

Whatever changes are being made in the tracks of a life, the poet Minnie Louise Haskins offers advice to help to move from the past to the present and into the future.

*'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'*

An extract from 'The Gate of the Year.'

Canon Jane Brooke  
Canon Missioner and Vice-Dean



CHESTER  
CATHEDRAL

## Closure of St George's United Reformed Church



On 25th July 2021 a Service of Thanksgiving was held for the closure of St George's Church, Thornton Hough. It was a very momentous occasion for the village as a whole and especially for all members of St George's church, some of whom had been members for many years. The service was conducted by Revd Nick Jones and the prayers were led by two former ministers— Revd Richard Hambly and Revd John Oldershaw. Promises concerning the closure were given By Revd Tim Meadows representing the Mersey Synod and Revd Jeff Hughes representing the Wirral area. Scripture readings were given by Margaret Crawford and Chris Burrell. Many members of All Saints attended the service and shared memories with their friends at St George's.

The future of the building is to be decided after consultation with groups from the village. It is hoped that it will contribute to the wider community life.

### Thoughts for the month of October

Our thoughts and thanks this month must go to all who provided us with food - farmers, delivery drivers and shop workers in these difficult times brought about by Covid.

Let us all enjoy the riot of colours brought to us by God's hands that can be seen in the evening sky and falling leaves of October. It is also a time to refresh our gardens and prepare for winter—see our gardening article on page 15.

October is our 10th Month of the year but in Roman times it was the 8th month hence the name "Octo" from the Latin and Greek word for eight.

Heavenly Father, guide us away from doubt which leads to despair. Kindle in us the flame of love, so that we may share your light in our darkened world.

**Don't forget: Clocks go back an hour on 31<sup>st</sup> October!**

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# NEW

BAR & GRILL MENU

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THORNTON HALL  
HOTEL & SPA

★★★★

## The Story of the Stole

You will have noticed that I wear a stole or scarf with my white cassock-alb robe when we have Holy Communion services. The stole is a mark of the ordained priest, a symbol of the “yoke” of service to Christ, and of the towel which Jesus used to serve others as he washed their feet.

You may also notice that the colour of the stole I wear changes with the church seasons: green for the long periods of Ordinary Time, red for marking particular saints’ days, purple for the solemn periods of Lent and Advent, and then I have my white stole. The white stole is worn at particularly festive times of the year, such as Easter and Christmas, and also when celebrating weddings.



The white stole is particularly special because it is also worn at ordination, and marks the new stage in a long journey in faith. The design on white stoles are often unique, telling you something of the person’s “story”, sometimes including pieces from a wedding or christening gown, or portraying a Bible scene. My white stole tells something of my story.

I wanted to have a design on my stole which would not only convey something of the two years I had spent at theological college in the beautiful Oxfordshire countryside at Cuddesdon, but would also be tactile and excite conversations with people of all ages wherever they were. I was determined to include a red kite, as these wonderful birds were a constant feature of the skyline, never ceasing to put a smile on my face.

Having bought a plain silk stole, I then had to set about preparing the design. The two panels are studies from photographs taken out on bridlepaths around Cuddesdon, broken into simplified geometric shapes, worked in pieces of coloured silk and needle felt, which I made myself, and a mixture of embroidery in gold, silver and bronze thread, coloured beads and sequins for extra shimmer and sparkle. The hours spent stitching became less concerned with drawing pictures and more of a meditation on many aspects of life and faith. I had to take a step of faith at first in adding my marks to a lovely pure silk stole, initially feeling like I was defacing it. There are no short cuts: the picture takes time to build, working in different textures and planes, yet it has been endlessly playful. I was able to experiment with new stitches and relished the many happy accidents along the way.

It has made me learn to be more patient with myself, not getting cross when the gold thread bobbles up for the umpteenth time, or the needle falls empty to a dark corner on the floor as I try to re-thread it.

My stole-story is also matched by lots of others. Perhaps we're all stitching our own stoles, figuratively, at least. Maybe one of the reasons why we get frustrated and impatient is that we expect a beautifully clear, complete picture to emerge immediately and without effort. Our embroidery might be rough and ready, inexpert attempts in places, but it speaks of time and thought, and, sometimes, pain as well as joy. Thank God that he takes infinite time and care with his stole-stitching, and will not rest until he has fully embellished his creation.

*Revd Vicky*

## GARDENING CORNER

We had some lovely warm weather in September but autumn is now definitely here with days getting cooler and shorter. This is a beautiful time of year with trees changing colour. Although leaves are falling remember that they can be made into leaf mould to use as a mulch for borders. Put damp leaves in a black plastic bin bag with a few small holes in it, tie off and leave somewhere out of the way. The leaf mould should be ready in 12 months.

Some of the plants we can enjoy at this time of the year are Asters, Dahlias and Autumn Crocus, Virginia creeper with its scarlet leaves, the red stems of Cornus (dogwood) and of course all the berry bearing trees and bushes such as crab apples and Cotoneaster.

Here are some jobs for this time of year:-

- Divide established rhubarb crowns to create new plants.
- Cut back perennials that have died down.
- Divide herbaceous perennials.
- Move tender plants, including aquatics, to a frost free place.
- Plant out spring cabbage
- Harvest apples, pears, grapes and nuts and any late tomatoes, courgettes and squashes.
- Prune climbing roses.
- Collect any remaining seeds needed for next year. Put clean ripe seeds in envelopes, seal and label them and store envelopes in an air tight tin in a cool place until you are ready to sow them in spring.
- Give lawns a final trim and tidy.
- Clear annual plants, such as tomato, pepper, aubergine and cucumber which have finished fruiting, from the greenhouse to make space for overwintering tender plants from the garden.



*From an enthusiastic local gardener*

Not every man has gentians in his house  
in soft September, at slow, sad Michaelmas.

Bavarian gentians, big and dark, only dark  
darkening the daytime torchlike  
with the smoking blueness of Pluto's gloom,  
ribbed and torch-like,  
with their blaze of darkness spread blue  
down flattening into points,  
flattened under the sweep of white day  
torch-flower of the blue-smoking darkness,  
Pluto's dark-blue daze,  
black lamps from the halls of Dis,  
burning dark blue,  
giving off darkness, blue darkness,  
as Demeter's pale lamps give off light,  
lead me then, lead me the way.

Reach me a gentian, give me a torch  
let me guide myself with the blue, forked torch of a flower  
down the darker and darker stairs,  
where blue is darkened on blueness,  
even where Persephone goes,  
just now, from the frosted September  
to the sightless realm  
where darkness is awake upon the dark  
and Persephone herself is but a voice  
or a darkness invisible enfolded  
in the deeper dark of the arms Plutonic,  
and pierced with the passion of dense gloom,  
among the splendour of torches of darkness, shedding  
darkness on the lost bride and her groom.



1906 aged 21



*The Rape of Persphone G.Schwarz 1573*

David Herbert Lawrence (1885-1930) led an unconventional life and produced unconventional novels, plays, poems, articles and pictures, many of which were banned or censored during his life, and even after his death. He portrayed what he took to be the truth, often in disquietingly vivid detail.

Born in Nottinghamshire to a dialect-speaking, alcoholic, semi-literate miner father and a southern, educated aspirational mother he used the tensions he



observed in his parents' relationship, and his own emotionally destructive affairs, to great effect in his sensational novels, especially *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, *Sons and Lovers* and *Women in Love*.

He eloped with a German married mother of three and lived abroad and in exile most of his life. He was always searching, reaching out for meaning and relevance. Duality, hypocrisy, symbolism, perversion, myths and legends, the Bible, and nature, not only human but also of animals and plants - all fascinated him.



*Lawrence painting one of his "gross, coarse, hideous, unlovely and obscene" works 1928*

This poem started life as:



*Bavarian gentians, tall ones  
make a dark blue gloom/ in the sunny room.  
They have added blueness to blueness until  
it is dark: beauty/blue joy of my soul.*

It went through a number of versions, entitled *Glory of Darkness*, in which the rape of Persephone was too graphic for any publisher.

Bavarian gentians are rare in England, and at once he feels privileged, special, to have them. He knows he is dying, and the idea of torch-like autumnal flowers giving off a blue darkness brings to mind Hades, the unseen one, Greek god of the underworld, known as Pluto or Dis to the Romans.

His rape of Persephone, goddess of spring, caused her mother Demeter, goddess of fertility and harvest, to cause all plant life on earth to die unless Zeus arranged Persephone's return. Having eaten six pomegranate seeds Persephone must stay for six months of the year. Through autumn and winter she is queen of the underworld.

Lawrence is eager to follow her, into autumn, or death:  
*lead me then, lead me the way. Reach me a gentian, give me a torch, let me guide myself* - death may be thrilling.

His poignant last poem contains the lines:

*Oh build your ship of death, your little ark  
And furnish it with food, with little cakes, and wine  
For the dark flight down oblivion.*

He died of TB aged 45.



*Persephone and the Pomegranate*

**Caroline Lancelyn Green**

## D.H. Lawrence's Bavarian Gentians - But is it Poetry ?

We usually expect poetry to have lines of certain lengths, with certain rhythms, with capitals at the start and rhymes at the end. Gerard Manley Hopkins moved away from metres and rhyme schemes with his "sprung rhythm" in poems such as *Windhover*, and D. H. Lawrence goes one further by writing a sort of stream of consciousness in long, loping lines that flow and swirl, but there are discernible rhythms, especially in lines like:

*where darkness is awake upon the dark  
and Persephone herself is but a voice*

and there are internal semi-rhymes like *forked torch* and *Pluto's gloom*.

Rhyme is essentially repetition with variation: words with repeated sounds at the end but varied ones at the start, as here *gloom* and *groom*. Lawrence repeats and varies not sounds but the words themselves:

*dark, darkening, darkness, darkened, darker and darker;  
blueness, blue, smoking blueness, blue-smoking,*

I think this poem's brilliance lies in its complicated associations of death with life, dying with excitement and colour with darkness. It reads like an incantation, or a meditation.

Poetry uses imagery, metaphors and similes, and references by means of emotive words, to express layers of ideas and emotions which are difficult to convey in prose. Lawrence, probably in Austria, revising *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and many poems, conscious of his approaching death from tuberculosis, takes a simple observation of nature, the extraordinary blue of gentians, which bloom in autumn, around the feast of Michael and All Angels (September 29<sup>th</sup>) official end of harvest, and lets this lead his mind to the Greek myth of Persephone and her partial loss of life, her partial reconciliation to her fate, as bride of death, and his own contrasting emotions of excitement and fear.



The words *pierced with the passion* recall Christ's death and hints at His resurrection, which is celebrated in spring, when Persephone returns. Lawrence merges the Greek and Roman gods of the underworld: Pluto, often called Dis, Roman god of wealth, naturally dwells in splendour, while his Greek counterpart Hades, is god of darkness and death, so Lawrence's vision of the afterlife is both terrifying and thrilling.

**Caroline Lancelyn Green**



## Autumn Quiz

1. What is autumn known as in North America?
2. Which English Romantic poet composed "To Autumn" after a walk near Winchester one autumnal evening?
3. Pumpkin fragments dated between 7,000 and 5,500 BC have been found in which country: China, Egypt, Germany or Mexico?
4. Who did Autumn Kelly marry in May 2008?
5. Bonfire Night takes place every November, but in which year did Guy Fawkes try to blow up Parliament?
6. And which king did Mr Fawkes try to blow up?
7. What are hedgehogs' spines or quills made from?
8. With around 400 players participating, what are the WCC, which are held annually on the second Sunday in October in Northamptonshire?
9. In Australia, autumn begins in which month?
10. In 2009, Autumn was the 81st most popular name for girls born in which country?
11. Name the pigment which trees stop producing, thus causing leaves to lose their green colour?
12. Pheasant shooting season starts at the beginning of which month?
13. Which federal holiday in the United States is often said to mark the end of summer and the start of autumn?
14. In Britain, the autumn internationals or November internationals take part in which sport?
15. The Oktoberfest is held annually in which German city?
16. Which celebration is influenced by the Celtic autumn festival, Samhain?

*Answers on page 26*



Richard Burnett,  
Partner, Hillyer  
McKeown

# Hello Everyone!

It strikes me that, as our population is living longer, it is more important than ever to think about our mental and physical health and wellbeing. Below, I have put together some practical steps you can take to protect yourself and your loved ones.

**Making a Will can be a difficult thing to think and talk about, but putting in place well thought out plans can offer peace of mind, knowing your wishes will be carried out in the way you want them to be.**

My advice is to not wait until things change, but to plan ahead. Welcoming a grandchild, downsizing your home or thinking about care home fees are life events that can typically remind people to update or make a Will. We also help people through difficult moments in their lives, following the death of loved ones.

## Trust & Estate Planning

**Seeking advice on planning for the future for you and your loved ones?**

We regularly support people who are seeking advice about inheritance and succession planning, or who are unsure what to do if a family member has become ill or can no longer make their own decisions.

You might also want to consider a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) legal document. An LPA allows you to choose one or more people to make decisions for you including about property of finances, or act on your behalf if you cannot deal with matters yourself.

## Business Wills

**If you have a Will, does it protect both your personal and business assets?**

If you (or a family member) own a business our unique Business Will service can set out detailed plans for you and your business.



Speak to us about protecting yourself, your loved ones and your business should something unexpected happen.



## What to do next?

Contact us for a free, no obligation discussion with a member of our Wills and Probate team in Birkenhead, Chester or if you prefer, in your own home.



[rhb@law.uk.com](mailto:rhb@law.uk.com)



01244 318 131

## COOKERY CORNER

### IRISH APPLE CAKE

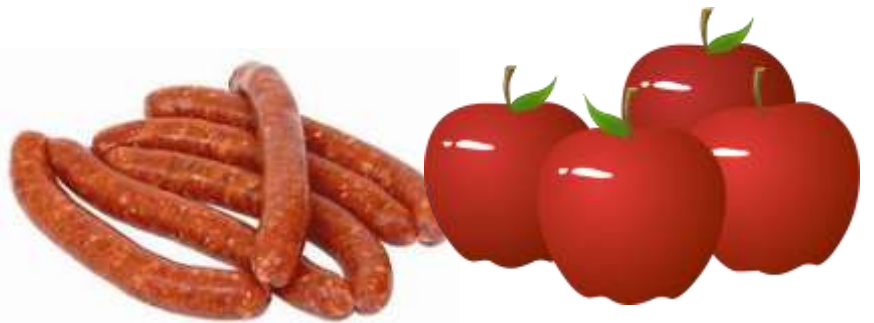
8 oz self raising flour  
4 oz sugar  
4 oz butter  
3 or 4 cooking apples  
1 egg  
Milk to mix



Put flour and sugar into a bowl and roughly chop butter into the sugar, but do not rub in or cream. Peel apples and slice into the mixture. Add the beaten eggs and enough milk to make a fairly stiff batter. Bake in square tin (foil if you want to freeze it) and bake for about an hour at 190°C, 375°F, gas mark 5. (If freezing, cool, cover with foil and freeze. Thaw at room temperature for 3 hours.)  
Cut in slices and butter.

### SAUSAGE STUFFED APPLES WITH BREAD AND CIDER

4 medium apples  
5 sausages skinned  
2 red onions cut into wedges  
500 mls cider  
6 to 8 sage leaves  
4 tsp butter  
2 thick slices of bread



Preheat the oven to 210°C/gas 6.

Slice a little off the bottom of each apple, scoop out core and seeds but not right through to the bottom to create a cavern for the sausage meat. Push the sausage meat into each apple allowing it to overflow a bit. Put the apples into a roasting tin. Scatter the onions around them and season with salt and pepper.

Pour the cider in and add sage. Top each apple with a little butter.

Cook for 25 mins. Tear the bread and add, tucking it among the apples so some is submerged in the cider, some poking out. Cook for another 15 mins.

Serve just as it is or with mash.



## A Very Tall Tree

I suppose we all have a tree that we like more than others: I have always been fascinated by the Giant Redwood which grows mainly in California. Although not the most attractive of trees to look at, they are magnificent and can grow up to be a thousand years old. They have a presence of their own. Some trees are 12 feet (4.5m) in diameter and 250 feet (76m) tall. They grow straight up then branch out at the top. When they grow old they tend to become hollow at the bottom. The bark is very rough and fibrous but



*The tree was so big that three of us with arms out-stretched didn't even reach half-way round the tree!*

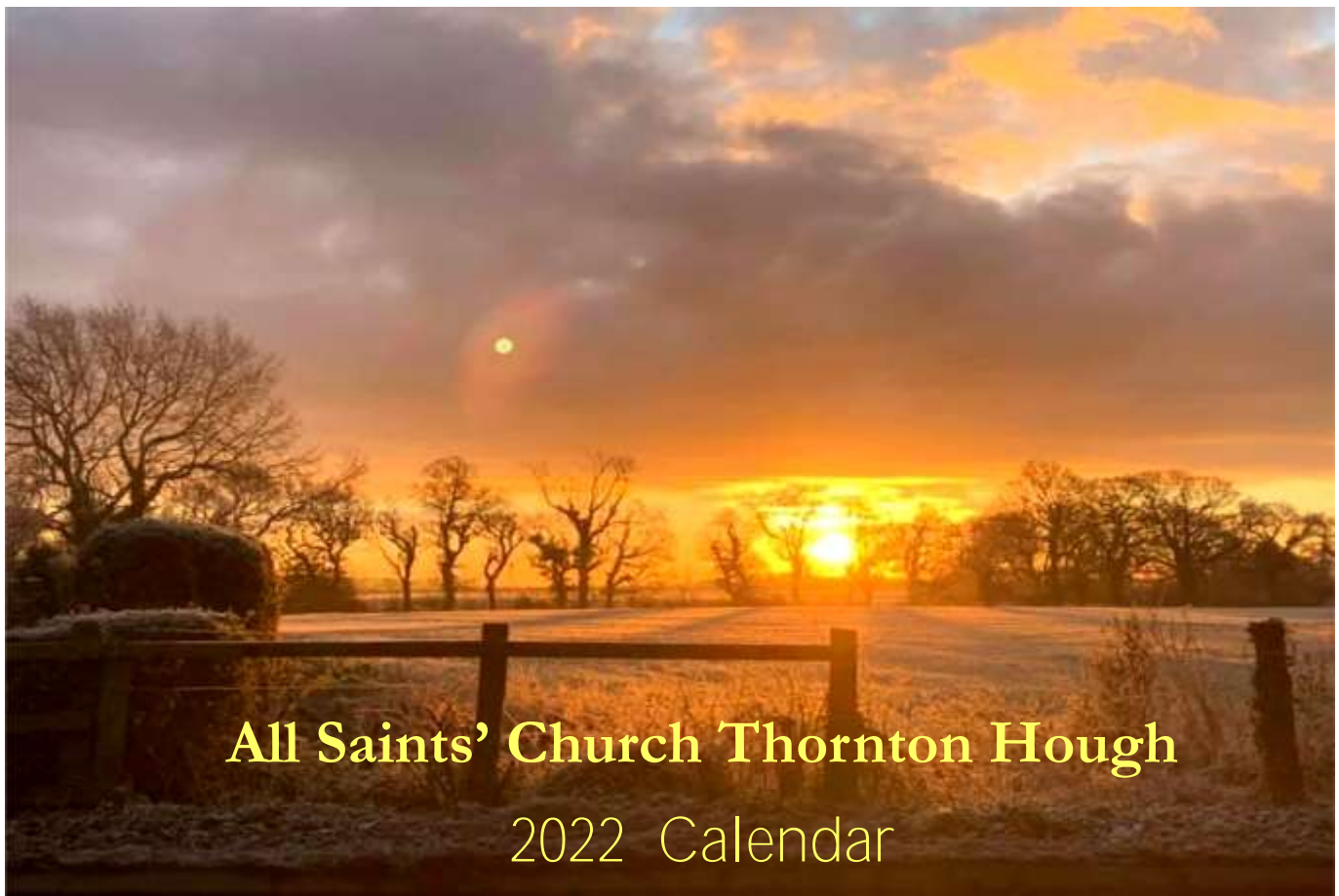
is resistant to fire so the tree does not burn easily. Once logged heavily, the Giant Redwood is now protected along with a similar tree: the Sequoia. It is a bit of a mystery how the tree gets the vast amount of water it needs but it has very deep roots and absorbs moisture from the damp air where it grows.

We had occasion to see them first hand while visiting my brother in Canada some years ago. We drove into the USA on the coastal highway 101 and called in at a Redwood Visitors Centre in California. To walk among these trees is an experience that stays with you. They are majestic and somehow make one feel humble, particularly when you realise that some of them were growing when Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> was on the throne.

Not far away was a motel that claimed all the wood used to make it came from one tree.



**Ron Longman**



All Saints' Church 2022 Calendar will be available from the middle of October. You can obtain the calendars from Brian Morris, Revd Vicky or Margaret Gamble - only **£5.00 each**. This would make a lovely present for your friends and relatives especially if they have moved from the village. Please support this initiative which raises much-needed funds for the church.

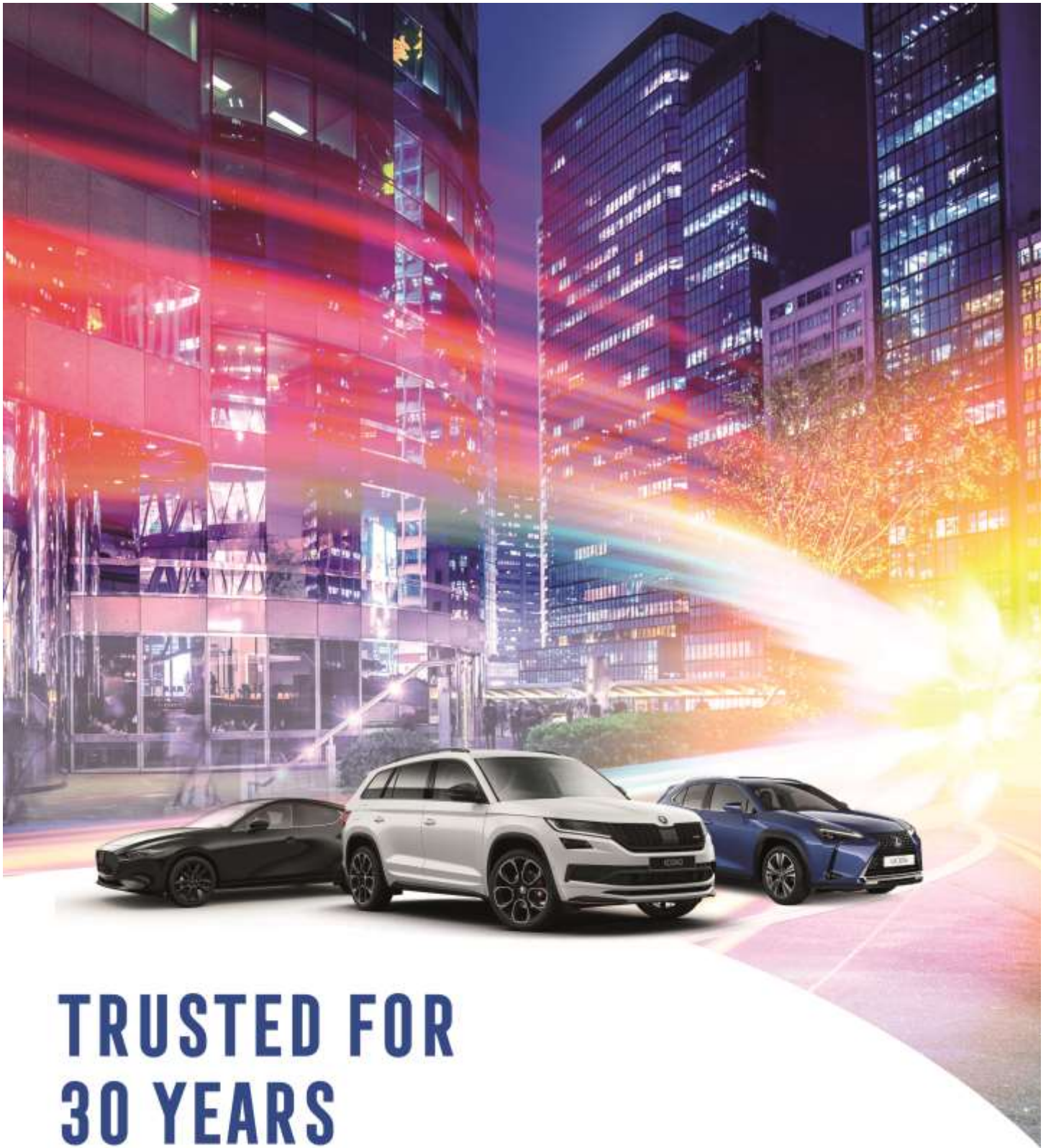
If you would be willing to sell some calendars please contact Brian Morris.



## THORNTON HOUGH WI

Thornton Hough WI met on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, our first formal meeting since March 2020. It was a pleasure to share an evening with familiar faces, remember dear friends and welcome new members too! Our next meeting in our newly refurbished hall is on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm. Our November meeting is on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.30pm: all are, once again, welcome. Guest speakers for both meetings are to be confirmed and will be published on our notice board outside the WI Hall. Keep a watchful eye out! We are holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning at the WI Hall on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, from 10.00am - 12.00 noon to raise funds for Macmillan. Tea, coffee and cake made by the WI ladies will be available. We would like to extend an invitation for you to attend - we cannot do this without your support and look forward to welcoming you.

**Janet Gay-**



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## The New Phone Box Library “Phone Box to Phone Books”



When BT decided to de-commission the phone box that has been on St George’s Way for many years the Trust decided that it was important that this iconic feature remained a part of the village. They set about purchasing the box from BT and thinking of ideas for a future use. Eventually it was decided that the idea put forward by local resident Cassie Brazier to transform it in to a book swap was the way forward.

During spring and early summer, when the weather was good, another local resident Guy Chessall set about the major task of refurbishing the box and returning it to its former glory. The box was washed, scrubbed, rubbed down and eventually repainted in “Telecom” red; all other original features were restored – the hinge straps on the door and even the PULL sign by the handle. New glass was fitted and the engraved glass saying “phone box” was replaced with glass saying “phone books”. The interior shelving was provided and fitted by Martin Mak from the “new estate” and finally after all this work the box was ready for a supply of books.



A formal opening and ribbon cutting ceremony took place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September attended by several residents, including the vicar and the Headteacher of the school. This was a lovely occasion and the sun shone. It is hoped that this facility will be widely used by the community: pop in, choose a book to read and either swap with one that you have previously read and are willing to part with, or simply borrow the book and then return the book you have



borrowed when you have read it.

As the time progresses consideration will be given to perhaps further uses alongside the book swap such as a seedling/plant exchange in the springtime. Look out for more information.

***Karen Young***  
***Thornton Hough Community Trust***

## Mobile Post Office Van

As you are probably aware since the Post Office closed on Thornton Common Road the village obtained the service of the Mobile Unit which comes to the Village Hall twice a week. The dates and times have now changed to

**Wednesdays 12noon - 1pm in the car park**

**and**

**Fridays 1.30pm - 3.00pm in the Village Hall**

The range of services include:

Post letters and parcels

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Bill payments

Personal and business banking

Savings accounts

Homephone and broadband

Health lottery

Gas and electric top ups

## Autumn Quiz Answers

- |                                                           |                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>The fall</i>                                        | 9. <i>March</i>                                   |
| 2. <i>John Keats</i>                                      | 10. <i>United States</i>                          |
| 3. <i>Mexico</i>                                          | 11. <i>Chlorophyll</i>                            |
| 4. <i>Peter Phillips (grandson of Queen Elizabeth II)</i> | 12. <i>October (October 1)</i>                    |
| 5. <i>1605</i>                                            | 13. <i>Labour Day (first Monday in September)</i> |
| 6. <i>James I</i>                                         | 14. <i>Rugby Union</i>                            |
| 7. <i>Keratin</i>                                         | 15. <i>Munich</i>                                 |
| 8. <i>World Conker Championships</i>                      | 16. <i>Halloween</i>                              |

## Thoughts for the month of November

Remember in November: We begin the month with **All Saints' Day** – after which our church is named. We remember and give thanks for all those saints in our lives who have encouraged us in our faith and helped to make us who we are. We also remember those men and women in the Armed Forces who have given their lives in conflict all over the world on **Remembrance Sunday: 14<sup>th</sup> November**. We will be having an **Act of Remembrance in our 10.30am service** and there will be a **Civic service beginning at the War Memorial at 2.45pm and then continuing in church at 3.00pm**.

Ever-living God, we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations. Amen.

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## Trade Directory

Trade	Name	Contact Tel	Mob
Greenhills garden Services	Will	336 5167	07754 411693
Joiner	Paul Whitehead	353 0493	07762 637374
Painter & Decorator	A Foreshaw	327 4788	07979 233 422
Health & Wellness - <i>Pilates</i>	Peter Heath	644 9279	07808 920 813
PAT Testing	Joey Farrell		07723 997 434
Gas Service	Mike Jones	342 5805	07813 137 134
ACG General Maintenance	Andrew Grover		07384 466 414
Book Keeping	Russ Smith	208 7126	07463 669 418

*Following a suggestion from various readers, we have compiled the above list based on their recommendations. if you know of anybody else who would like to be included please inform any of the Editorial Team.*

**Disclaimer** "The above are not recommendations of the editorial team and neither All Saints PCC nor the editorial team can accept any liability resulting from using these organisations/trades people."



**Jonathan Frost  
Rare Books Limited.**

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## Register of Baptism, Burials and Marriages for August/September 2021

<b>BURIALS</b>	<b>Died</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Burial / Ashes</b>
Susan Elizabeth PIPER	20/10/20	77	31/7/21
Kenneth William EDWARDS	6/8/20	89	6/8/21
Bryan BOYD	5/4/21	84	11/8/21
Audrey BOYD	29/5/21	86	11/8/21
William John BRENNAN	22/7/21	87	18/8/21
Christine Elaine CADE	27/1/21	76	21/8/21
Ethel <u>Freda</u> JENKINS	3/3/21	89	21/8/21
Norah WARING	6/8/21	91	26/8/21

### **WEDDING**

28/8/21: Jonathan David LINES & Helen CLAYTON

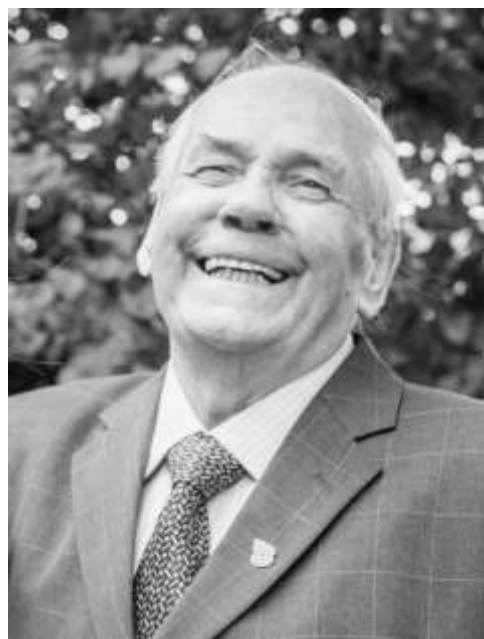
### **WEDDING BLESSINGS**

4/9/21: Robert and Miriam LINDSAY

18/9/21: Paul and Rachel TUDOR

## **Bill Brennan**

We are very sad to announce the death of Bill Brennan a valued and regular member of All Saints'. He was a member of the PCC and represented us at the Deanery Synod. Bill supported all the church events with good humour and great enthusiasm. He will be sadly missed by us all. His life was celebrated at All Saints' on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August with the eulogy given by his children Christine and Dave followed by fond memories from his grandchildren Jon and Tim. The service ended with interment at the Raby Road cemetery and all who attended the service were asked to join the family for light refreshments at the WI Hall.



## Advance notice: Services for Christmas 2021

(Details in the December-January edition of The Magazine.)

### November

- 28**     **Sunday**     **Advent Sunday**  
**10:30am**     **Service of readings and music for Advent**

### December

- 4**     **Saturday**  
**10:00am**     **Coffee and carols (i)**  
**11:15am**     **Coffee and carols (ii)**
- 12**     **Sunday**     **Third Sunday of Advent**  
**10:30am**     Holy Communion (Common Worship)  
**4:00pm**     **Christingle**
- 19**     **Sunday**     **Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**8:00am**     Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
**10:30am**     Holy Communion (Common Worship)  
**3:00pm**     **Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas (i)**  
**5:30pm**     **Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas (ii)**
- 24**     **Friday**     **Christmas Eve**  
**11:00pm**     **"Midnight" Holy Communion (Common Worship)**
- 25**     **Saturday**     **Christmas Day**  
**10:30am**     **Holy Communion for Christmas Day (Common Worship)**
- 26**     **Sunday**     **First Sunday of Christmas**  
**10:30am**     Morning Prayer (Common Worship)

**Coffee and carols** is a new event. Come along for a cup of coffee and a mince pie and sing some of your favourite carols and Christmas songs. We'll be including some of the songs that don't usually get sung at our services and there will be a few stalls to enjoy. There will be two sittings, lasting about an hour each. We are going to limit the numbers at each sitting to help everyone feel safer. **Tickets will be on sale in November.** Book the date now! **December 4<sup>th</sup>.**



# Parish Diary

## 2021

*Please note that all dates are subject to change at short notice.*

### October

#### **3 Sunday Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**

8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

6 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

8 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice

#### **10 Sunday Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**

10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

12 Tuesday 7:30pm PCC Meeting in the Parish Hall

13 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

2:15pm ACF Meeting in the Parish Hall

A Journey on the Trans-Siberian Railway

[Dr Elly Macbeath]

15 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice

#### **17 Sunday Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**

8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10:30am Morning Prayer (Common Worship)

6:30pm Choral Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)

20 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

22 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice

#### **24 Sunday Last Sunday after Trinity**

10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

27 Wednesday 10:30am Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall

(No service in church)

29 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice

#### **31 Sunday All Saints' Day**

10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

2:30pm Commemoration of the faithful departed(i)

4:00pm Commemoration of the faithful departed(ii)

### November

3 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

5 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice

#### **7 Sunday Third Sunday before Advent**

8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)



## November

- 9 Tuesday 7:30pm PCC Meeting in the Parish Hall.
- 10 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)  
2:15pm ACF Meeting in the Parish Hall  
Details about the talk and speaker to follow.
- 12 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice
- 14 Sunday Remembrance Sunday (2nd Sunday before Advent)**  
10:30am Morning Prayer (Common Worship)  
including an Act of Remembrance  
2:45pm Act of Remembrance at War Memorial  
3:00pm Civic Remembrance Service (All Saints')
- 17 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 19 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice
- 21 Sunday Christ the King / Sunday before Advent**  
8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)  
6:30pm Evening Worship (Common Worship)
- 24 Wednesday 10:30am Coffee Morning (No service in church)
- 26 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice
- 28 Advent Sunday**  
10:30am Service of readings and music for Advent

## December

- 1 Wednesday 10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 3 Friday 7:00pm Choir Practice
- 4 Saturday 10:00am Coffee and Carols (i) (Parish Hall)  
11:15am Coffee and Carols (ii) (Parish Hall)
- 5 Sunday Second Sunday of Advent**  
8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10:30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

### A little more humour!

Engineers have successfully made a car that can run on parsley. They are now attempting to make trains that can run on thyme...

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.

It's not the minutes spent at the table that put on weight, it's the seconds.



# Sunday Bible Readings

## October — November 2021

### October

- 3 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
Hebrews 1:1-4,2:5-12      Mark 10:2-16
- 10 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
Hebrews 4:12-16      Mark 10: 17-31
- 17 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**  
Hebrews 5:1-10      Mark 10: 35-45
- 24 Last Sunday after Trinity**  
Hebrews 7:23-28      Mark 10:46-end
- 31 All Saints' Day**  
Revelation 21:1-6a      John 11:32-44

### November

- 7 Third Sunday before Advent**  
Hebrews 9:24-28      Mark 1: 14-20
- 14 Remembrance Sunday (Second Sunday before Advent)**  
Hebrews 10: 11-25      Mark 13: 1-8
- 21 Christ the King Sunday before Advent**  
Revelation 1:4b-8      John 18:33-37
- 28 Advent Sunday**  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13      Luke 21: 25-36

### December

- 5 Second Sunday of Advent**  
Philippians 1:3-11      Luke 3:16

## Morning Prayer at all Saints

Why not join Vicky for a Morning Prayer service in church  
on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9.15am?

It is a very peaceful way of starting the day.

## Who to contact about our groups

### Bible Study

<b>Bible Study and Prayer</b>	<b>Shirley McEvoy</b>	336 3449
<b>A Church Fellowship (ACF)</b>	<b>Helen Tankard</b>	hdt1426@sky.com 648 0181
<b>Church Choir</b>	<b>Iain Stinson</b>	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
<b>The Magazine Team</b>	<b>Patsy Baker</b>	336 3273
	<b>Iain Stinson</b>	324 4800
	<b>Brian Morris</b>	336 1393
	<b>Revd Vicky Barrett</b>	336 2766



## Reminder

**Clocks go back 1 hour on Sunday  
31<sup>st</sup> October at 2.00am**



## The Magazine

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

**The deadline for submission of materials for the next edition is**

**16<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

## Who's who at All Saints

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