

Saints Alive!

*The parish magazine of
All Saints Church, Kings Heath*



**November
2022**



£1
(suggested donation)

notorious *presents*

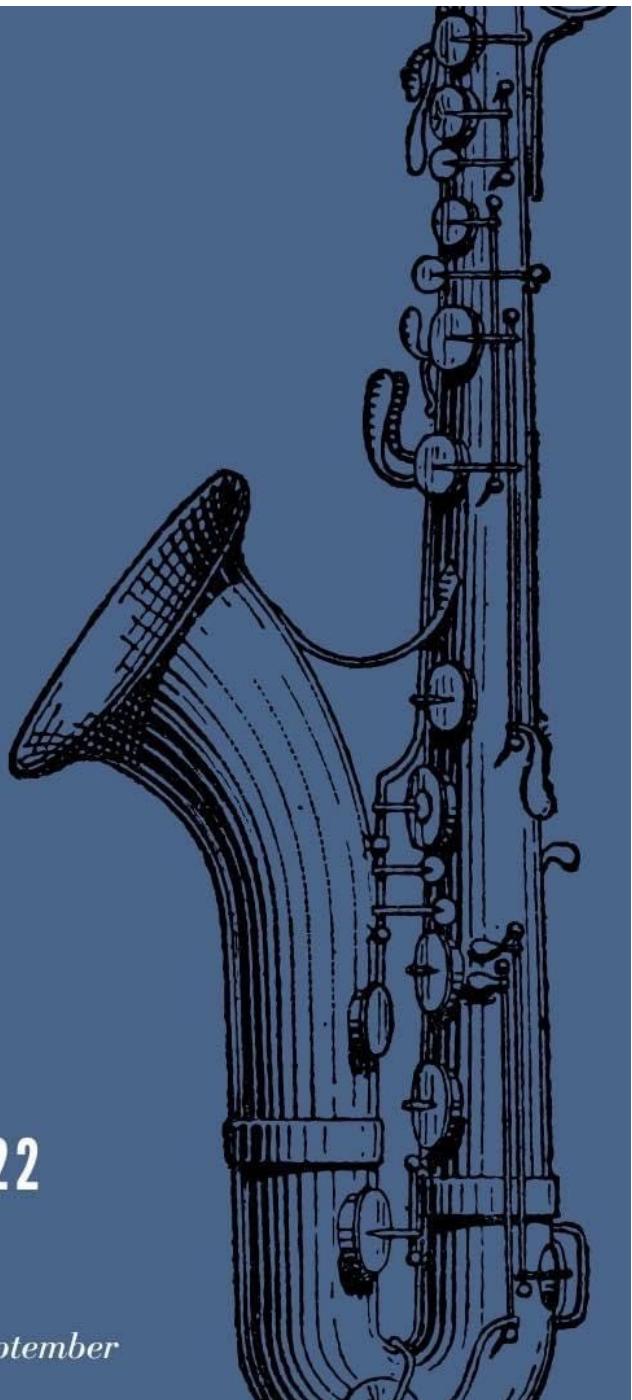
Will Todd's
**MASS
IN
BLUE**

conducted by
Clare Edwards

featuring
Gabriella Liandu
and the
David Austin Grey Quartet

SATURDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2022
7.30PM

CBSO CENTRE *Tickets available from September*



Get involved...!

We are always pleased to receive contributions for the magazine –
including reviews, *Getting to know you* interviews,
and reports about activity across the church campus and beyond.

If you have any comments, suggestions, ideas for articles
or would like to submit something for inclusion in a future issue,
please contact Ben & Clare Noakes, Editors:

E: magazine@allsaintschurkhh.org T: 07967 730156 / 07929 593097

From the vicarage

Dear friends and neighbours,

What splendid news about one-time All Saints curate David Monteith being appointed as Dean of Canterbury. I am quite sure that Her Majesty the Queen was more confident in that, one of her last appointments, than she was in asking Liz Truss to form a government.

David's achievements at Leicester have been remarkable, art and faith and storytelling weaving together creatively. He leaves them with a huge grant awarded for the next phase of reordering and development. Moving to Canterbury seems like an upward move, although there may be more constraint on artistic expression in such a place and I am sure it will be very hard to leave the extraordinary cultural richness of Leicester. That said, I am proud to think of someone with such interfaith insight and intercultural wisdom serving the church in Kent, a place deeply anxious about migration.

I hope that you at All Saints feel healthily proud too, as you have helped to shape David's ministry. Curacy is a formative time and, together, the All Saints family and the Kings Heath neighbourhood have cherished and inspired many curates, preparing them for ministry that is unafraid, open to new ideas and intrigued rather than threatened by difference.

I enjoyed reading the Downing Street press release (not a phrase I find myself saying often) because, apart from David's inspiring CV, it simply acknowledged his partnership with David, 'a palliative care counsellor'. Even two or three years ago that statement would not have been there.

Now, of course, some deeply inadequate people who attempt to stunt the work of the Holy Spirit in the compassionate lives and witness of both Davids are saying deeply unchristian things about the appointment. That they do so claiming some kind of superior Christian identity is bleak and sad.

We must displace such resentment and hold to the confidence and joy of David's appointment and evolving vocation. Rejoice that someone so witty take one of the oldest, most serious-sounding roles in the Church of England. Remember young David decorating 14 All Saints Road so carefully? Let us delight in the possibilities as he and David work on the canvas of the Canterbury Deanery.

David

A reminder that you can sign up for the regular All Saints newsletter here:

<https://landing.mailerlite.com/webforms/landing/o7a2q4>

Whatever happened to the Coat of Hopes? –

Part 2: A Tale of Two COPs

I'm hoping you don't remember that Part 2 of my COP26 reminiscence was promised back in March's edition of the church magazine, along with the painful distress that the most eagerly-awaited second instalment since *The Empire Strikes Back* did not appear in said edition...

But now I have foolishly reminded you of this fact by means of a whimsical literary device, this absence probably has you hot under the dog collar (if you are a priest), or crying into your corn flakes (if you are a high-powered executive reading this in a few precious moments before jumping in the BMW to catch a non-existent train to London). Or, like me, staring misty-eyed into your tea, if you work from home, like tea, and it is teatime. (Which is pretty much all the time, when you work from home.)

I can but apologise, and say only in my defence that I was busy with other worthwhile projects, and despite Ben's tenacious and timely reminders, this instalment became subsumed beneath assignment deadlines, regular outings with The GAP Arts refugee café as a community producer on Balsall Heath Second Saturdays, exploring the protest of resistance, trying to finish off the back room with my limited construction skills, and drinking cups of tea. Many cups of tea.

However, all is not lost, because with the anniversary of COP26 this month, and the follow-up conference, the imaginatively titled COP27 in Egypt, it seems an opportune moment to revisit this article. What did COP26 achieve? Were things as bad as they seemed on the news, in terms of what the conference appeared to agree? Was any progress made on global emission cuts at all?

Come with me a year back in time, then, if you will, to a time before we lived in the strange alternate reality where Cruella de Vil is prime minister (who knows, by the time you read this we may have passed through yet another looking glass, and maybe ruled by a cabbage), and King Charles is, erm, king. A time when we merely lived in the strange alternate reality in which we only had a bumbling buffoon for a PM, and his attempt to change the law to help out one of his mates, Owen Paterson, got more headlines than possibly the most important climate summit in history: COP26.

Back then, CO₂ was only 413 parts per million, as opposed to 416 per million now. Fracking was still banned. And the worst energy crisis since 1973 hadn't prompted a mad dash for the remaining North Sea oil, rather than investment in much cheaper renewables. And I had just arrived outside Blantyre with the Camino walkers.

And it was raining.

Walking to Blantyre

Rain was to become very familiar to me during my time in Scotland. The rain in Scotland is like the rain in England, only more so. Firstly: there is literally more rain – it rains more frequently, and for longer. Secondly: the rain in Scotland is somehow more wet. The feeling of deep-down dampness engendered by Scottish rain somehow exceeds that of lily-livered English rain, which merely gets you mildly and temporarily wet by comparison.

This is one of the many ways I was to discover in which life in Scotland is different from that in England.

Another I was to notice very rapidly is that shopkeepers are much nicer to you in Scotland, at least around the Glasgow area. As soon as you take but a single footstep within their stores they spontaneously and pre-emptively ask you if there is anything they can do for you – or if they can find is something that you need. I have never known an English shopkeeper, unsolicited, to ask if it would be helpful for them to look after your shopping behind the counter while you go about your other business. But this very thing happened to me on the Camino in Strathaven where, after a particularly rainy, wet and damp morning, I visited a general supplies store to stock up on such necessities as waterproof trousers as well as a rather fetching red woollen scarf – along with, most significantly, a small, yet powerful, convection heater, which proved surprisingly successful in drying out the campervan floor, which had been somewhat dampened by the water tank overflowing on the way up to Glasgow.

Be warned, however, that, no matter what anyone tells you, the health systems in England and Scotland are compatible in only the most limited sense. My surgery administrator at home said it would be ‘no problem’ having a prescription sent up to a Scottish pharmacy.

She was wrong. Very wrong. Although they have the same name – ‘the NHS’ – it turns out that there are two different NHSes, one for England and one for Scotland.

Who knew!

Well, now, you. So don’t say I didn’t warn you next time you leave England for Scotland without a plentiful supply of your essential drugs.

Every cloud has a silver lining, however – even Scottish clouds. And the advantage of my wild-goose chase around various Scottish pharmacies, and eventually a surgery, trying to procure (legal) drugs, was that I managed to avoid spending that much time walking in the rain: for as soon as I eventually received my shiny red analgesics, the Scottish sun burst forth from behind the grey Glaswegian firmament and I was able to join the others and walk the remaining miles to Blantyre becoming only slightly damper in a mild drizzle.

Blantyre working men’s club

That evening I had a fascinating time with many other pilgrims in a Blantyre working men’s club – not just those on the Camino, but also another English group, who had walked much further each day, enabled by staying in booked accommodation without packs. Another group joined us who had walked all the way from Spain!



At the club we received the generous hospitality of our hosts St Joseph’s, Blantyre, who provided us with a free drink, and free curry! The club was for former miners, Blantyre being the site of a famous colliery where there was a dreadful explosion on 22 October 1877 that killed more than 200 men and boys. The club was a big source of support for miners and their families during the miners’ strike in 1980s. However the colliery could not be saved from closure, leaving Blantyre as place of high deprivation, with no other major industry to replace coal mining.

And so we returned to St Joseph's keenly anticipating the final day's march into Glasgow. This was to be an amazing confluence of influencers, a pilgrimage of pilgrimages, and the culmination of the Camino to COP.

It also involved me getting up at 6:30am, for a 7am start. For those not in the know, I am **not** a morning person. And sleeping in an over-cramped and still slightly damp campervan was not conducive to a particularly good night's sleep.



The assembled pilgrims at Blantyre Working Men's Club.

Nonetheless, spurred by the magnitude and urgency of the occasion, I managed to crawl out from under my duvet (I'm not a huge fan of sleeping bags – I find them too confining) and into what I was grateful was only a fairly mild Glaswegian drizzle, at around this hideously early time.

In a daze of tiredness and confusion, yet also with a slightly manic euphoria, I joined the assembled throng at the front of St Joseph's Hall.

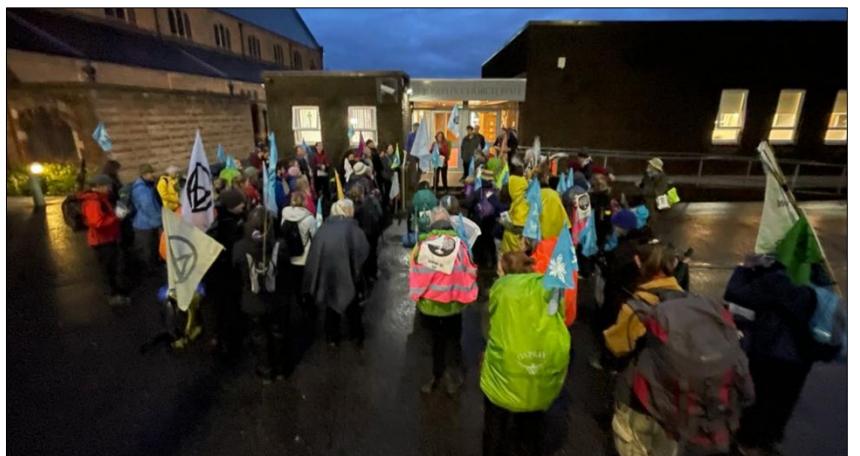
Vicar Helen Burnett led us in a beautiful interfaith ceremony commemorating the last day of the Camino, and with another rendition of the Coat of Hopes song for good measure we set off in a column of vast number, our various pilgrimages intermingling and intertwining as we walked – nay, marched – at a fair clip away from Blantyre and St Joseph's RC Church and into the Glaswegian hinterland, through the narrow band of green countryside separating the two.

Other pilgrims had also joined us, for the last day's march, and I found myself talking to an older couple I didn't know from Norton St Phillip, near Bath. Norton St Phillip is a lovely little Somerset village where another older couple, Barbara and Tony, I know live. They are the parents of a university friend I know, and her siblings whom I came to know.

It turned out this other couple knew Barbara and Tony!

It's a small world. Perhaps especially when you're from Norton St Phillip.

It was around this point, about an hour into the march, that I began to regret taking an impromptu trip to local gym the previous day. Ever one to keep myself in trim, and mindful that my fitness for the following day's walk probably wasn't up to par compared to many of the others who had been walking almost every day for several weeks, I hit the cross-trainer and then the squat rack particularly hard, something that was extremely satisfying, especially when followed by a lovely hot shower in the changing rooms afterwards.



Freshened and re-energised, I returned to in a much better frame of mind which, to be honest, over the course of 24 hours had become slightly clammy and fetid, housing as it did around 50 dampish walkers, their togs and their clogs.

Later on that evening, however, the combination of my over-zealous gym session, unusual living conditions, and my fibromyalgia began to tell, and a dull yet persistent ache spread over many parts of my body. This wasn't what was meant to happen, but fibro is an unpredictable and capricious condition. Sometimes exercise helps, other times it makes things worse. This time it was the latter, and the next day's brisk walking which might have been quite enjoyable, became quite painful, with my body becoming achy and stiff.

Nonetheless, the intensity of the occasion, and the vibrant energy, camaraderie and companionship of the other Camistas, carried me onward towards Glasgow.

We crossed roads and annoyed cars (although on this occasion the protestors weren't trying to). We traversed bridges and forded flooded footpaths, where the Clyde had swelled ominously in the autumn rains and burst its banks. The variety of ways chosen to traverse the flooded, extremely muddy areas were very entertaining to behold. (I chose a hop skip and jump approach.) We sang songs and played instruments.

We stopped on a bridge over the Clyde, stood in a circle, held hands and sang lovely folk songs.



This is not a river.



Cameras, and still more cameras – and flashes, lots of flashes, as we arrived in Glasgow. The blue-clad figures are the Blue Rebels: silent, mysterious blue observers of what occurs. And also Scottish.

We turned cartwheels, and did somersaults.

(Actually I made that bit up – just checking that you were paying attention!)

Finally, at last, we arrived at our destination on Glasgow Green.

And were hit with a wall of the local, national and international press, the like of which I had never seen.

By this time I had somehow made my way to the front of the procession, and in my role as Barbara's little coat-helper was helping hold up the edge of the coat, so that its full splendour and magnificence might be revealed to the world's waiting media.

Next page: On the BBC Scotland website. Central is Melanie – one of the leaders of the Camino – and to the right, also me: a large mysterious figure in blue. (Hey, that gives me an idea!)

20:24 ☰ 31 YouTube ...

bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-59102422

82 :

*Many thanks to **Damien Hursey** for this account – part 2 of A Tale of Two COPs will continue in the next issue of the magazine.*

Spreading our outreach

Although not in our parish, All Saints has had various contacts with Tandy Court care home, resulting in an invitation to lead a short service for the residents. This took place on 17 October, with a dozen or so gathered in the lounge. It was led by David, with two readings by Lu; Tariro offered prayers, and there were three hymns accompanied on recorder. The overall impression was that it was much appreciated, and many were keen to join in – *All things bright and beautiful* was a particular hit. There were those there who may not have understood fully what was going on, but it was clear that the components of the service and the rhythm of the worship were recognised, full of meaning, and comforting. It was a very successful afternoon – and we may even be invited to go again.

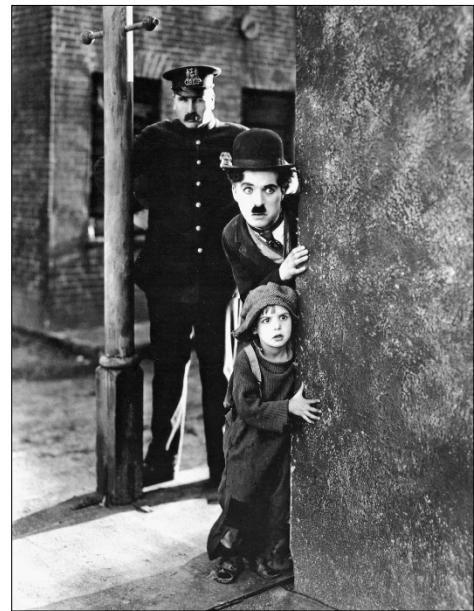
Liz Haskins

From the registers

	Baptism – congratulations to: Emma Bethany Noakes, baptised on 16 October
	Funeral – we remember: David Carter, whose funeral took place at Lodge Hill Crematorium on 20 October

Fun in October!

Well, what a fine nine days in October! The silent film night saw nearly a hundred people attending. Vincent Byrne showed us three films: a Laurel and Hardy, a Buster Keaton and a Charlie Chaplin short.



He improvised some magical piano and organ music to accompany them, and gave us some wonderful background information on the films and stars. Did you know that Charlie Chaplin was married four times, had 11 children, appeared in his first film in 1914, and had a cameo appearance in *The Countess of Hong Kong*, which he directed, starring Marlon Brando and Sophie Loren? It was his last appearance, in 1967 – 53 years of films. A great evening that also raised over £300 for the church.

Friday 21 October saw the church swinging to the Jive Aces – a 1950s-inspired swing band – with over 50 people attending.



On Saturday 22nd we held the Christian Aid Quiz in the hall – 11 teams competed and we ate some super pies (with mash and peas) from Rourke's. Competitive, fun and informative, we raised £285 for the East African famine appeal. (We also sold some donated apples in church on the Sunday morning to top this up!) Christian Aid will buy water purification kits with the money to help grow more crops.

Never let it be said that things don't happen at All Saints! If you have suggestions for an event do speak to a member of the Social and Fundraising Committee: Des Workman, Tony Cocks, Sarah and Daniel Wilson, and Pam and Lewis Coley.



...love the new notice board, Vicar...
...just not quite so sure about the wording...

***The Crafters' Christmas Fayre
will be held in the church
on Saturday 3 December***

10am till 2pm – FREE ENTRY

*Lots of homemade items and preserves,
ideal as Christmas gifts and stocking fillers*

*Music from Ben, Clare & friends
Carol singing
Nativity set raffle
Tombola stall*

Mulled wine, coffee and mince pies on sale

Come and enjoy!

A visitor reflects

Linda is a young Anglican from Zimbabwe who spent a year in the Community of St Anselm based at Lambeth Palace, and is discerning her vocation in the Anglican church. She has spent some weeks with us at All Saints, and was part of our group at Greenbelt. Here are her reflections.

Hello, my name is Linda Sanyika and I come from the Diocese of Harare in Zimbabwe. I came for the Lambeth Conference and decided to stay around visiting friends, and at the same time have been discerning ministry. I was part of the community of St Anselm in 2018.

Recently I served as a steward at the Lambeth Conference. It was a great and inspiring experience meeting people and bishops from across the world. Coming from a patriarchal society, I was given hope to meet female bishops in the Anglican Communion. I particularly drew inspiration from Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop Vicentia Kgabe, and the Revd Cathrine Ngangira (who is from the same diocese as I am in Zimbabwe). I also got a first-hand experience of two of the Anglican Communion instruments working together.



I came to Birmingham to visit a friend and I had no idea that it would be a place where I would find bits and pieces of the puzzle. David and Tariro welcomed me into their space with open arms and warm hearts. I looked forward to Morning Prayer with them and the reflections which followed after. It felt like a normal cup of tea and chatting but it was more; in every one of those reflections there was always something.



I attended the Greenbelt Festival and it was a new experience for me. Two things stood out for me during that time: firstly, the way that David served us throughout. I was reminded of what it means to be a leader, to serve not only when you are expected to but also when you are not expected to. I was deeply moved and made me reflect on my role in the Church as a leader and if I had been faithful to that role. Secondly, I only used to watch environmental issues on TV and was never really bothered much about them. Greenbelt was all about the environment this year and for the first time I paid attention to it; I was moved and I began thinking of ways I could introduce such topics in my church, and ways I could take part in serving the environment.

A funeral in Zimbabwe is a sacred event. People gather fully expressing their emotions, celebrating, dancing, and role-playing the life of the deceased. It's often associated with a lot of crying as much as dancing. Body viewing is allowed to everyone for the final goodbye and closure. In Zimbabwe, a priest heads the funeral till the person is buried only if the person is a Christian, but sometimes the priest takes part when asked by the family of the person who has died even though they are not Christians. It was a different experience attending two funerals here. The first funeral had a lot of people and was less emotional; perhaps that's because they had had enough time to grieve and express their loss, whereas in Zimbabwe a funeral happens as soon as possible, sometimes taking away the grieving period from people. The second funeral was very emotional for me. I struggled throughout; the people were very much connected to their emotions and one could tell that they had a very close relationship with the person who had died. It was a bit reminiscent of a funeral from home.

Reading the passage of the Samaritan woman who encounters Jesus at the well in one of the services was significant for me. As a young woman discerning ministry and not sure what that would look like for me, I felt like God was saying you can carry my bucket, serve me through my people until I give you a new assignment. There was a deep sense of joy in being reminded that though we think we are not worthy to stand before people and represent him, he thinks otherwise and that he looks forward to us being his representatives. It was as though Jesus was saying trust and wait; it will all make sense.

Since I left Birmingham I have been traveling around England seeing friends and family. Again I was driving with a friend and having a very deep conversation about ministry and at that moment I realised that I had learned a lot from the people I had stayed with. Three of them are priests. It was strange yet amazing. At that moment I felt like God was saying: 'Now does it make sense?' That he was saying sometimes we hear God speak after we have been removed from the conversation or the event. It took a conversation with another person for me to realise that God had been speaking to me through these people. I don't know yet which road it is God and I will be journeying together but I am confident that he will lead me till the end. All these experiences are preparation for something big and I look forward to what that is.

High days and holy days

13 November (this year) – The poppies of Remembrance Sunday

In late 1914, WWI erupted across northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed. But then in the spring of 1915 something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae to write the now famous poem *In Flanders Fields*. And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia and the UK.

Anna Guérin, a Frenchwoman who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.

(adapted from www.parishpump.co.uk)

From the churchwarden

Having had a month off from musing (well, last month you just got the archdeacon's Articles of Inquiry instead – which probably made a lot more sense), it is interesting to note that I have entirely missed the premiership of Liz Truss... They say that a week is a long time in politics but it seems that a few days is a long time at the moment. Who knows what will have happened in Whitehall by the time you read this? My favourite post (within minutes of the announcement) was from Larry the No 10 cat announcing: 'The King has asked me to become Prime Minister because this nonsense has gone on long enough.' He has his own Twitter feed... I did ponder what his first laws would be: every house to be fitted with a working cat flap? Dogs banned from sofas? What I really want to know is whether Liz Truss just decided to quit because she couldn't stand the £2,000-per-roll wallpaper that the previous incumbent put up any more... And whether she painted over it with some cheap emulsion?

Speaking of redecoration, hopefully, back at All Saints you will notice a change in the chancel where the plastic sheeting, put up several years ago to keep the dust from the organ removal out of the rest of the church, has been taken down. This week a temporary stud-partition wall will be built between the organ space and the chancel with a repurposed plywood panel (a spare panel like those at the back of church from when the Marjorie Allen and Chapel Rooms were built) used to create a sort of 'audio-window' to allow the sound out from the organ speakers. Eventually, the speakers will be relocated to a higher 'shelf' so that they are positioned behind the top archways facing out into the chancel and the north aisle.

Thanks to all those who came and helped clear and clean the church recently. The organ space is now cleared and the boiler room tidied up. We still need to clear up the north porch which contains many items which are only picked up once a year when I check them against the inventory. Some of them definitely need to go... The revisioning process which is under way commenced with revisiting the mission and vision for the All Saints campus and there was a meeting recently to discuss the comments. I can't report on the meeting as I couldn't attend due to the need to count money instead, but I think the plan is to revise the draft Vision Statement based on the comments received and reissue it. This will inform the direction of the church and centre over the next 10 years or so. The idea is that this statement will guide the continued evolution of the All Saints site to solve some of the issues that we currently have. Part of this will be deciding on the best use for the spaces we already have including the now (much) tidier organ space, as well as bigger questions such as the completion of the last phase of the Development Project and possible reordering of the church. Obviously it is all dependent on funding, which is not easy to find for religious organisations.

Particularly in the current economic climate, survival is more than enough for many businesses and families to think about. As we heard in today's service [Sunday 23 October], the Christian Aid quiz proceeds are going to a specific appeal to help those in Africa who are starving because global food price rises have priced poorer communities out of the market. It's not just energy prices, although they have been in the news a lot and are obviously a preoccupation for the energy-hungry European and other 'developed' countries.



Having a smart meter makes it very clear just how much prices have gone up. I've set the 'budget' figures for our meter so that if we stay below them, our annual energy bill will stay below £3,000 a year! It's not that helpful as of course energy use in winter is much higher than in summer so we'll probably end up busting the budget. I did experiment with the relative cost of using an electric versus stove-top kettle. This will give you an insight into the mind of an engineer who works from home – and the lengths I'll go to in avoiding sitting back down at the computer...

I found that to boil a litre of water our electric kettle used about 0.115kWh, while boiling our old whistling kettle on the gas stove used 0.315kWh of energy. So the electric kettle is much more efficient at heating water. **But** electricity is much more expensive so actually the cost of boiling a litre of water using gas is half a penny cheaper than using electricity (3.25p compared with 3.88p). This kind of makes sense because if the gas was used in the power station to make electricity it would do so at about 50% efficiency (so half the gas energy would be converted to electricity) and then there are losses in transmission, costs of running the power station etc. The plus side, of course, is that the gas energy 'wasted' in heating the water inefficiently goes into heating the air in the kitchen – so it hopefully saves a bit of the heating costs which the electric kettle doesn't. We don't have the heating on during the day so actually it doesn't really save costs, but it does keep me warm. The wasted heat at a power station is dumped into the atmosphere via the cooling towers.

The whistling kettle does take longer to boil (another excuse not to sit down at the laptop...) and it whistles – which is the principal reason that the children decided we needed an electric kettle; plus they can't be bothered to wait. Actually – mostly that they can't be bothered to wait. They have no imagination – while waiting they could empty the dishwasher or put stuff away or work out the relative costs of using electrical versus gas-fired water boiling appliances. Sitting at the laptop getting colder and colder means that the excuse to spend five minutes standing by a gas hob watching a kettle boil while warming your fingers is a blissful extravagance.

Anyway – writing this while watching *Harry Potter* meant that the box of candles that needed sorting is still sitting at my feet – a task for another film night. I'll just about have sorted out last year's Christmas candles before we get going with the new batch. Only two more Prime Ministers till Christmas...

Chris Pearce
Churchwarden

Wreath-making workshop



The All Saints Craft Group is pleased to announce a wreath-making workshop in church on Friday 25 November.

The cost is £20 including refreshments and you get to take home a lovely Christmas wreath!

Sessions are two hours with the choice of 2:30pm or 6:30pm – if interested please email desandshe@yahoo.co.uk.

Sheila Workman

From the PCC

A Standing Committee meeting was originally scheduled for 17 October but this coincided with Bishop David's retirement activities so it was decided to postpone the meeting until 1 November. Unfortunately, this was after the date by which this article was required for publishing in this edition of *Saints Alive*.

Nevertheless, in the interim one or two things have occurred which are worth reporting to readers.

Finance: The treasurer has provided some recent figures and was delighted to be able to report that our final monthly payment on the CCLA loan from the diocese secured to assist All Saints in our building development was paid in October. David wrote to the Diocesan Secretary and Finance Director thanking them for all their support.

David went on to say that he was proud of the board members and congregation who have ensured that a payment had not been missed, nor a Common Fund offering, through the 10 years of the loan repayment. This marks a significant milestone in the life of All Saints.

With regard to the overall picture including the Development Company and the Church Centre, the treasurer reported that the net worth of the site stands at circa £186K, roughly the same as last month.

Church clean: This has now taken place: partly on 7/8 October, comprising mainly clearing a lot of unwanted material from the organ space and above the Marjorie Allen Room; and on 14/15 October, which saw predominantly the high-level clean of window ledges, arches and the rood screen etc, followed on the Saturday by the low-level clean and polish of the pews, carpets floors and windows etc. Many thanks to Chris Pearce for organising this, and to the various member of the congregation who helped.

Oversight: This is the new initiative from the Birmingham diocese whereby parishes would be grouped into 'clusters' so that available resources could be distributed within the group fairly and according to demand. A meeting of key people has been held but as yet the outcome has not been reported.

6:30pm Sunday services: These services with a bias towards younger people are continuing to prove very successful.

Church public address system: The current PA desk in the church is understood to be becoming problematic and a replacement has been obtained. Thanks to Chris Pearce and also to Brian Miles for undertaking the purchase and installation of the new unit. This should provide us with a more reliable system.

Christian Aid quiz: The postponed quiz was finally held on Saturday 22 October. It was great fun as well as there being some challenging questions. There was a total of 11 teams and the eventual winners were 'A Tribe Called Quizzed', which was a remarkable feat considering there were only three of them when most of the other teams had six.

The evening was complemented by some delicious Rourke's pies, mash and mushy peas suppers at the interval and supplemented by some refreshments from All Saints Community Catering.

The profit from the sale of tickets, Stand Up (then Sit Down, mostly) Bingo and donations amounted to a healthy £285 for Christian Aid's East Africa appeal. Many thanks went to the organisers for a splendid and successful evening.

Infilling wall in chancel: Readers may have noticed that the plastic sheet in the chancel where the organ was, has now been replaced with a stud partition wall. This was implemented by the Church Fabric Committee and approved by the Standing Committee. It incorporates a spare plywood panel similar to the ones at the west end of church by the baptistry (machine-cut with the Gothic window pattern) which is backed with fabric to allow sound through from the organ speakers. Readers may not know that the Gothic design emulates the design of the stained glass window in the Marjorie Allen Room.

The work was undertaken by a local company called Russell Williams Property Limited of Moseley.

David Warbrick commented that it is a very good idea and it would make a big difference to the chancel – hopefully to be completed before a wedding later in November, and certainly before all the Christmas services.

It is understood that the church architect also recommended that the plastic be removed sooner rather than later where it is against the stonework as it can restrict moisture movement. The new proposal will hopefully eliminate this possibility.

Churchwarden: Our current churchwarden, Chris Pearce, has completed approaching three years as a warden almost single-handedly and done an excellent job. The three years will be completed next April. Since the last PCC meeting in September, there have not been any further developments regarding the appointment of new churchwardens to replace Chris, as far as I am aware at this time.

To finish, just to let you know that the remaining meetings this year are as follows:

SC Meetings: 20 December 2022.

PCC Meetings: 15 November 2022.

Tony Cocks
PCC Secretary

*Rehearsals will shortly be starting for this year's **Candlelight Carol Service** (taking place at 6:30pm on Sunday 18 December). Do please let us know if you would like to join us to sing or to play an instrument, or for information about other events during Advent and over Christmas.*

All are welcome to take part in these or any other musical activity in church, whether regularly or occasionally. Please contact Music Co-ordinators Ben & Clare Noakes for more information:

E: music@allsaintschurkhh.org T: 07967 730156 / 07929 593097

Accessing and paying for the magazine

The *Saints Alive!* magazine is available in digital form on the All Saints website at <https://allsaintschurchkh.org/about-us/publications/>, with hard copies available to pick up from the back of church each month (when it is open). The suggested donation for each issue is £1, but cost should not be a barrier to anyone in the church reading the magazine in either online or printed form. Cash donations can continue to be made via the slot at the back of church; alternatively a standing order can be set up to pay in advance for a year's-worth (10 issues) of the magazine – please see the form below – or a cheque made payable to All Saints Kings Heath PCC can be sent to the Parish Office (address is on the back page). The form gives the individual the ability for their payment to go towards one of three areas – please select the General Purpose Fund (GPF) and delete the other two. Finally, if you or someone you know would like a copy of the magazine posting out each month then please contact us as below to arrange this.

Ben & Clare Noakes
Editors

magazine@allsaintschurchkh.org
07967 730156 / 07929 593097

STANDING ORDER MANDATE AND BANK PAYMENT INFORMATION <i>(Please detach and send to your bank) or use for Internet Banking Payments</i>		
To: The Manager		
Address:		
Postcode:		
Please pay to HSBC PLC, Kings Heath Birmingham Branch	Sort Code: 40-11-15	
For the credit of: The PCC of Kings Heath Parish All Saints Church	Account Number: 71801163	
the sum of £ _____	First payment on _____	/ _____ /20
and monthly / weekly thereafter on the same date until cancelled by me, or on.....		
Reference: G.P.F. V.D.F. M Garden Magazine <i>please delete the ones that do not apply</i>		
<i>Please cancel any previous mandates to this beneficiary on this account number.</i>		
Name:		
My Sort Code:	My Account Number:	
Signature:	Date:	

If you bank online, you will be able to use the details below to set up a standing order:

Name: The Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church **Account no:** 71801163
Reference: GPF (magazine) **Sort code:** 40-11-15

If you have any problems or questions about setting this up, or the church's finances in general, please contact Steve Brittle, Treasurer on 01905 772171 or zena_steveb@btinternet.com.

Campus focus

With plenty going on around the church campus each day of every week, it's always interesting to find out about a bit more about the different activities that make up part of life at All Saints. This month Des Workman reminds us about the activities of the Ramblers, and also shares a letter of thanks to All Saints from Christian Aid.



All Saints Ramblers continue to ramble on. In October just eight of us went for a beautiful four-and-a-quarter mile ramble on the Arley Circular; woods, the River Severn, and two steam trains viewed on the Severn Valley Railway. The largest group we have ever had is 24; the smallest is around six, with the average around 12-14. All are welcome: some decent walking shoes or boots some suitable clothing and you are away. The next walk is on Wednesday 16 November: a circular walk from Meriden, about five-and-a-half miles. If you would like to join us, please speak to Des Workman or Pam Coley.



Thank you for your donation

Hi Desmond,

We acknowledge receipt of the BACS donation on behalf of Kings Heath All Saints.
Thank you for your donation of £285 to the East Africa Hunger Crisis Appeal.

With your generous gift, we're working with our local partners to respond to the severe drought in Ethiopia and Kenya, and helping over 300,000 people by repairing wells, handing out water purification kits, providing cash support and trucking water to drought affected communities as well as providing fodder and medicine to keep valuable livestock alive

Together we can give lasting hope, stop this widespread malnutrition and hunger, and help people to build a life free from poverty and injustice. We couldn't do it without you.

Thank you once again,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Fiseha Kebede".

Fiseha Kebede
Ethiopia Programme Manager
Christian Aid

Who's Who

Worship (for clergy see back page)

Children's Worship Co-ordinators	Becky Cuthbert	0121 244 7683
Youth Group (year 7 upwards)	Grace Storey	07813 322697
Music Co-ordinators	Jenny Warbrick	0121 444 0260
	Ben & Clare Noakes	07967 730156
		07929 593097

Church upkeep

Vergers	Liz Haskins	c/o 0121 444 0760
Sacristan	Paul Smart	c/o 0121 444 0760
Altar Linen	Bernice Mattis	c/o 0121 444 0760
Head Server	Wendy Ross	0121 444 1423
Electoral Roll Officer	Tony Price	01564 824420
Parish Magazine	Tony Cocks	0121 441 2945
	Ben & Clare Noakes	07967 730156
		07929 593097

Finance team

Treasurer	Steve Brittle	01905 772171
Expenditure Officer	vacant	
Income Officer	John Watling	c/o 0121 444 0760
Insurance & Investments	Tony Cocks	0121 441 5655
Gift Aid	Philip & Martha Ann Brookes	0121 444 5655
Envelope Giving Scheme	Tony Price	01564 824420

Groups, clubs and organisations

All Saints Ramblers	Pam Coley	0121 572 3553
	Gill Parkin	0121 604 6127
Badminton Club	Des Workman	0121 443 5292
	Steve Brittle	01905 772171
Bible Reading Fellowship	Des Workman	0121 443 5292
Lunch Club	Elizabeth Turner	0121 604 6086
Meditation Group	Daniel Wilson	0121 449 9869
Safeguarding & Child Protection	Mary Miles	0121 449 0851
Traidcraft	Gill Parkin	0121 604 6127

Planned giving: All are invited to join the planned giving scheme, contributing by weekly envelope or banker's order/standing order. Taxpayers – please sign a Gift Aid declaration for reclaiming of tax and use of payroll giving if possible. Contact the Finance Team for further information.

Parish Office: For enquiries about baptisms, baby naming services, banns and marriages, please contact the Parish Office to arrange an appointment at a vestry hour – 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, 10:00-10:30.

Ministry to the sick: Visiting the sick at home or in hospital – please inform the Ministry Team of anyone who is sick. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved and oil is kept for ministry to the sick.

Ministry of healing: Laying-on of hands and anointing – last Saturday in the month at 09:15 as part of Morning Prayer, occasional Sunday evenings (as announced), and at home or in hospital as requested.

Communion of the sick: At home or in hospital, as requested, communion is taken, monthly, to the long-term sick or housebound.

Other ministries: For blessing of homes, celebrations of anniversaries, thanksgiving after childbirth, confession and counsel, please contact the Ministry Team.

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Officers	Lay Vice Chair vacant	Secretary Tony Cocks	Treasurer Steve Brittle, 01905 772171
Members	Jim Andrew Margaret Andrew Fiona Briggs Martha Ann Brookes Philip Brookes Tim Cuthbertson	Brian Miles John Parkin (Reader) Chris Pearce (Warden) Vivien Tilsley David Warbrick (Vicar) Chris Watts	Claire Wesley (Reader) Daniel Wilson Sarah Wilson Des Workman

All Saints Community Development Company (ASCDC)

Chair	Andy Savage	c/o 0121 444 0760	andy@allsaints-cdc.co.uk
Facilities Manager	Dave Priday	07732 137772	david@allsaints-cdc.co.uk
Administrator	Angela McDermott	0121 444 0760	angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk
Hall & Room Bookings	Angela McDermott	0121 444 0760	angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk

All Saints Community Projects (ASCP)

Chair	Mary Miles	0121 449 0851
All Saints Youth Project	Vicki Willinger	0121 443 1842

The Robin Centre for Older People

Centre Manager	Paula McGrath	0121 483 4400
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Ministry Team

Vicar	David Warbrick	4 Vicarage Road, 0121 444 0260
Assistant Curate	Tariro Matsveru	c/o 0121 444 0760
Churchwardens	Chris Pearce vacant	07891 924149
Licensed Readers	Margaret Healey-Pollett John Parkin Claire Wesley	c/o 0121 444 0760 0121 604 6127 0121 444 2778
Reader Emeritus	Mike Cheesbrough	0121 444 5620
Pastoral Team	Juliet Bick, Stuart Blissitt, Becky Frall, Wendy Ross, David Warbrick, Jenny Warbrick	0121 444 0260
Prayer Circle	(for confidential prayer requests)	parishoffice@allsaintschurkhh.org 0121 444 0260

Worship

We have reopened for our Sunday services (said at 8am, sung at 10am and an evening service at 6:30pm), and 11:30am Wednesday service.

We will continue to provide an online order of service via the website and newsletter for those at home.

Up-to-date information can be found at www.all saints churchkh.org and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

All Saints Church, Kings Heath

2 Vicarage Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7RA

Administrator: Angela McDermott

Parish Office: 0121 444 0760

parishoffice@allsaintschurkhh.org

www.all saints churchkh.org



**THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**