

# ***Saints Alive!***

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



**September  
2023**



**£1**  
*(suggested donation)*

# *From the vicarage*

Dear friends and neighbours,



More than 20 All Saints people and other friends pitched camp together at the Greenbelt Festival over the August bank holiday weekend. Each morning we emerged at different times from our tents, seeking hot drinks, gently judging how many sips of tea or coffee each other might need before it's time to start a conversation. In the evenings we gathered like some rural Italian family at our long table under a gazebo to share lovingly-prepared food and share the ideas provoked by that day's talks, which poetry had moved us, which music had surprised us that day at the festival among fine trees and lakes in the grounds of Boughton House, Northamptonshire.

Perhaps we put up with the discomforts of camping, the queues to use chemical toilets and the vagaries of the weather because the mood and creativity of the Greenbelt Festival is so healthy. Several thousand people, increasingly diverse as the years go by I notice, seem to share curiosity about faith, humanity and ecology; they nurture between each other a calm joy; they seem to want to embody in life a well-informed hopefulness.

A casual observer of much church, or of Christians in ordinary life, might think the default settings of faith are anxiety, apology and inertia: anxiety about finance, apology about the past and reputation, and inertia making change eye-wateringly slow. For a few days, we breathed the clear air of wide-open fields, and in the festival site we breathed a combination of joy, hopefulness and curiosity. Could these be the real default settings of healthy faith?

I think so. Among the many people encountered over the weekend, some of whom I knew, some of whom I didn't, I noticed a contrast between those who seemed relieved to be there and those who walked and talked as though it was a lovely atmosphere, but not that unusual. Some colleagues exuded a kind of relief which hinted at a ministry frustrated by resistance or criticism. Some angular

comments to speakers expressed disappointment in their hinterland. Some were tired from trying to persuade people to take an interest in stuff, exhausted by worry about finance and institutional pressure. Some people indeed enjoyed the open-hearted atmosphere, but conveyed a certain sadness that suggested the prevailing currents of work culture or church out there were unwholesome and anxiety-inducing.

Whether tired clergy colleagues, or faithful people navigating an often hostile secular world of work, I fervently hope the time spent in the curious fellowship of Greenbelt might not only give them relief, a top up of confidence and a little encouragement, but might also help check their own default settings of faith, and reassure them they are not daft for imagining the world differently. I hope we all can benefit from Greenbelt's lens-polishing, giving clear-sightedness about where sources of anxiety are, and which should be challenged as wrong or set aside as fake.

I generalise, of course. Greenbelt is far from perfect. The most stridently inclusive gathering excludes some. However much I agree with the ethical leanings of the festival I can't help hearing its own trigger words and uncritical impulses sometimes. There's no need to idealise. But it would be churlish to stay silent about the blessings on account of some imperfections.

Back at our table, I was nourished by people of different ages and interests – a theologian, a London lawyer, a hairdresser, a student, an IT consultant, teachers, a carer, an engineer, a volunteer co-ordinator and so on – eagerly sharing what they had discovered each day, just as much as I was fed by the most magnificent saag paneer one evening. I felt deeply encouraged by the way lively curiosity and good-humoured joy made for hope about the future of church, politics and planet. Returning, I am moved yet again at how fortunate I am to minister among you, All Saints worshippers and Kings Heath neighbours, in a place I feel has such good, if of course imperfect, community default settings.

This September we observe Creationtide, weaving into our worship and common life curiosity about our relationship with creation, informing our joyful thanks for life and opening ourselves to hope for all creation's flourishing.

Thank you for being faithful you.

*David*

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

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

# ***Hats off to Greenbelt Festival!***

Are you wondering what happened to those hats you dug out of the attic and donated for use at Greenbelt?



Read on: all will be revealed, after some context. Artists Jake and Gillian Lever were joined by Gillian's sister (and ex-teacher) Susie Hopkins and artist Phill Hopkins to form their annual family art collective 'Sew Far Sew Good' at Greenbelt Festival on the August bank holiday weekend. Greenbelt is a very special place where the interface between artistry, activism and belief is explored through talks, performances, events and presentations. For 50 years the festival has hosted an annual gathering in a field, and this year around 10,000 people were there on the campsite, including a group from All Saints Church.

'Sew Far Sew Good' have been offering workshop activities at the festival for around 12 years, and this year we felt it would be a lovely way to celebrate its 50th birthday by creating party hats; upcycled, customised hats using needle and thread. Hats of all kinds were donated not only by members of the All Saints congregation, but by people from churches in Leeds and Lincoln. Pre-loved baseball caps, beanie hats, cowboy hats, straw sun hats and even smart wedding hats all found their way to the festival. Children of all ages looked wide-eyed as they were invited to choose a hat to work with, and then dived into our mountain of haberdashery to customise them with buttons,

embroidery, feathers and sequins. Hours of concentration in the 'Make and Create' tent followed (to the delight of parents) and the results were really creative, fun and personal. Many wore their hats proudly around the festival site for the weekend, a joy to see. On the Monday we also did a workshop for adults who loved the experience of quietly sewing, a haven of stillness and meditative making in the heart of the festival. Participants were equally inventive and creative; one refugee now living in the UK movingly created the platts in the colours of the Ukrainian flag to attach to her hat, proudly wearing it across the site. One Baptist minister who visited our tent commented: 'For me, this is worship and I want to do more of it.'

So, Gillian and I extend a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated a hat this summer; your contribution brought much joy – and the opportunity to be creative – to many.

**Jake Lever**

## All Saints Tea Cake and Music

Join Us on The First Thursday of Each  
Month for Tea, Coffee, Biscuits or  
Cakes

In the South Vestry of All Saints  
Church Kings Heath

Company, Warmth, and a sing a long for those who want  
2.30 pm to 4pm – Free



# Music matters

***Being still, valiant and thankful – looking in detail at three hymns held by many in great affection.***

Every now and again, the monthly music list seems to contain a particular glut of well-loved hymns and songs. September 2023 is one such month so below we look into a few of them.

## ***Be still, for the presence of the Lord***

This is an example of a fairly recent composition that quickly established itself in the canon – written in 1985, it appeared in the top 10 in polls of the nation's favourite hymns undertaken by the BBC's *Songs of Praise* programme in 2013 and 2019 (both these surveys included a brace of other songs which fall into the 'modern classic' bracket: *In Christ alone* and *I, the Lord of sea and sky*); the BBC noted that it 'has become one of the most widely used songs of the last 50 years' and according to licensing company CCLI, in the late 1990s it was 'the most popular contemporary hymn/worship song used in UK churches'. Both the text and music for *Be still, for the presence* [sometimes *Spirit*] *of the Lord* come from the pen of British musician and teacher David J Evans; on his website Dr Evans states that his 'principal claim to fame' is as the writer of this hymn, adding: 'What a privilege it is to have written words and music that have found such a special place in the hearts of so many.'

I have noted in these pages before how difficult it can be to express why certain pieces of music 'work', or can be so effective/moving etc (reminding us of the old maxim that 'writing about music is like dancing about architecture'); I would direct you to Dr Evans' site (<http://drdaviddevans.co.uk/composing.html>) where the whole article about *Be still...* is well worth a read and does the job much more effectively than I could here. 'Much of the work's secret,' he concludes, 'seems to lie in its innocent, trusting simplicity.' The hymn is usually sung in unison, although we also sometimes sing a very effective three-part arrangement by Richard Shepherd which really brings out some of the gentle chromaticism in the original's keyboard accompaniment.

(As an aside, after the All Age Worship at which *Be still...* was recently included, one member of the congregation recounted a story of a service elsewhere some years ago at which one of his children, then fairly new to his instrument, was due to be playing as part of a group. When the music leader failed to show up, the person taking the service asked what they could play and this song was the answer, so it featured three times at various points during the service! Further digression: this then made me think of the episode of *Father Ted* – not the first time probably my favourite TV show of all time has been referenced here – when a DJ at a parish function turns up with only one record, *Ghost Town* by the the Specials, which is then played constantly, including when the attendees are invited to stand up and sing the national anthem...)

## ***He who would valiant be***

...to which I should probably add straightaway, aka *Who would true valour see*. This hymn, also and perhaps more commonly known as 'To be a pilgrim' (the final line of each verse in both versions of the text) first appeared in the second part of John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress* from 1684 with this latter opening line. The text was modified substantially by Percy Dearmer for inclusion in the influential and significant *English Hymnal* of 1906 and as the Wikipedia article on the hymn notes, 'for a time, Bunyan's original version was not commonly sung in churches, perhaps because of the references to "hobgoblin" and "foul fiend". However, one commentator has said: "Bunyan's burly song strikes a new and welcome note in our hymnal. The quaint sincerity of the words stirs us out of

our easygoing dull Christianity to the thrill of great adventure.” Recent hymn books have tended to return to the original’ – for example, while our 2000 *Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New* credits the ‘Percy Dearmer, after John Bunyan’ revision, the 2013 edition of *Ancient & Modern* reverts to the original, so it is easy to compare the two versions to decide which you prefer! (You might also be interested to look at Michael Forster’s *Come, faithful pilgrims all* in our book.)

The tune now known as **Monks Gate** had been heard by Ralph Vaughan Williams at a hamlet in Sussex bearing that name, and he arranged it for publication alongside Dearmer’s text in that 1906 *English Hymnal*. ‘To be a pilgrim’ is one of those hymns, like *Abide with me* or *Amazing grace*, that are known and referenced perhaps almost more often beyond the church than within; it was included at the funerals of Winston Churchill and Margaret Thatcher and at the thanksgiving service for Prince Philip, has been selected on *Desert Island Discs*, and has featured in films and TV programmes from *A Bridge Too Far* to *Neighbours*.

### ***Now thank we all our God***

‘Nun danket alle Gott’ was written by Lutheran pastor Martin Rinkart, who served in Eilenburg in Saxony during the Thirty Years’ War. This walled city became a place of refuge during the conflict and, as a consequence, also a place of overcrowding, disease and famine; at the height of one plague Rinkart was the only clergyman in the city, conducting upwards of 40 funerals a day. He still found time to write prolifically; at its first publication in 1636 this text was called *Tisch-Gebetlein*, or ‘a little prayer before the meal’. It’s another hymn that quickly established its popularity, apparently being widely known by the time peace was signed in 1648. According to clergyman John Julian, Rinkart’s ‘services rendered’ to Eilenburg ‘seemed to have made those in authority the more ungrateful, and in his latter years he was much harrassed by them ... a worn-out and prematurely aged man’ by the time of his death a year later.

Also quoted on the ever-useful [hymnary.org](http://hymnary.org) website, Greg Sheer observes that this little, ‘humble prayer of thanksgiving is laid out simply and beautifully in the first verse, but it’s the next two verses that expand the hymn’s focus and have given it its lasting appeal’ – with the war ‘pressing on his mind in verse two [asking for grace, guidance and freedom “from all ills / in this world and the next”]. After a verse of thanks, and a verse that asks for strength during the trials of life, he ends with a paraphrase of the doxology as if to say: “The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away, may the name of the Lord be praised.”’

Various translations were made of ‘Nun danket alle Gott’, and it is the one by Catherine Winkworth that is familiar to us singing Rinkhart’s prayer in English. Winkworth was a pioneer of women’s rights who developed a great knowledge of German hymnody; her translations have been described as ‘polished and yet remain[ing] close to the original’ (and this one gives us a rare chance to sing the word ‘perplexed’, which I always enjoy). We normally sing it to a tune by Johann Crüger, which took its name **Nun danket** on first appearing with Rinkart’s text in 1647 and has also been used in works by J S Bach and Felix Mendelssohn. Our book also suggests Geoffrey Beaumont’s **Gracias** which seems, like his other mid-20th century alternative **Hatherop Castle** (that one for *O Jesus, I have promised*), to have fallen from favour and perhaps unsurprisingly is unlikely stand the test of time as well as the tune it might once have displaced.

**Ben Noakes**

**Music Co-ordinator**



Catering for the  
community

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We offer a warm place to relax, meet others for a chat, play board games  
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and



# Laughter lines

A vicar planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land was shaken when she found it would cost her £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee.

She protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. 'That might be true,' replied the travel agent, 'but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord himself walked.'

'Well,' said the vicar, 'at £50 an hour for a boat, I'm not surprised!'

A devout farmer lost his Bible while he was mending fences out in his fields. Three weeks later a cow walked up to him, carrying the Bible in its mouth. The farmer couldn't believe his eyes. He took the book out of the cow's mouth and exclaimed, 'It's a miracle!'

'Well, hardly that,' said the cow. 'Your name was written inside the cover.'

At the Pearly Gates, St Peter greeted a minister and a Member of Parliament and gave them their room keys. 'Vicar, here are the keys to one of our nicest single rooms. And for you, Mr MP, the keys to our finest penthouse suite.' When the vicar protested that this was unfair, St Peter explained: 'Look, clergy are a ten a penny up here, but this is the first politician we've ever seen.'

A pastor, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his message. The man returned just before the conclusion of the service. Afterwards the pastor asked the man where he had gone. 'I went to get a haircut,' was the reply.

'But,' said the pastor, 'why didn't you do that before the service?'

Came the reply: 'Because I didn't need one then.'

A minister used a standard liturgy for funerals. To personalise each service, she entered a 'find and replace' command. The computer then found the name of the deceased from the previous funeral and replaced it with the name of the deceased for the upcoming one.

Not long ago, the minister told the computer to find the name 'Mary' and replace it with 'Edna'. The next morning, the funeral was going smoothly until the congregation intoned the Apostles' Creed. 'Jesus Christ,' they read from the pre-printed programme, 'born of the Virgin Edna...'

A local DJ was introducing a record at our annual church fete. 'This next one,' he said, 'is for Mavis, a choir member, who is 111! Hey, Mavis, congratulations on a ripe old age!'

There was a short pause and then the DJ said, in a somewhat more subdued voice: 'I'm sorry, I read that wrong. This next one is for Mavis, who is ill.'

(from [www.parishpump.co.uk](http://www.parishpump.co.uk))

## (Ex)-warden's musings

Definitely that back-to-school feeling evident now... hopefully you've all had lovely summers with some time away from normality. We returned to Crete for a week with my in-laws for our second 'probably the last holiday the children will come on'. Must be something to do with the warmth of the sea. And maybe the food. The food was very good. As I'm writing this, we are watching Jamie Oliver's TV programme about Mediterranean cookery and he is in Greece which is lovely but is making me hungry even though I've already eaten... We stayed in a villa near Chania and I think the area used to be olive groves. The owners of the villa, Jannis and Kerstin (originally from Germany), were very friendly and insisted on taking Becky and me on a tour of their garden. We carefully picked our way through tomato plants growing like weeds (outside – no greenhouse needed, of course) and came back with bunches of grapes, three varieties of tomatoes, figs, a very large aloe vera leaf, some eggs from their chickens and flowers for Becky and her mum. The supermarket was so good that we ended up eating in most nights to use up all the food we impulse-bought (and were given) which is a mixed blessing as there were some lovely tavernas to sample.

I have signed up to Duolingo to learn some Greek. I'm not sure what algorithms they use to decide what to teach you, but I have learnt words including pink, carrot, vase, museum and architect in addition to possibly more useful words like yes and no. I'm not quite sure whether I'd be able to hire a car or book a hotel room in Greek yet, but I'm probably not far off explaining the colour of the shirt of the person who designed the carrot and vase museum – provided it's pink. Interestingly, I had a chat with a friend who studied languages and is rather more advanced in her Greek language Duolingo odyssey and she confirmed that, even at the expert level, the content is interesting. She recently learnt the sentence 'the journalists won't reveal what was said at the conference' in Greek. Not sure how useful that will be, but we are coming up to conference season...

Speaking of ridicule, we've always wondered what prickly pears taste like. They grow everywhere in Crete but we'd never tried one, so when Becky found some in Sainsbury's she bought them home – but then couldn't work out how to eat them. She said she was going to look it up on the Internet, then managed to get a spike stuck in her finger. A few minutes later, she was running upstairs saying 'unngngnnmmmanmnnngng', or something like that. When she came back down, she explained that she'd managed to get the spike from her finger stuck in her tongue. I'm not sure that she ever managed to actually try one of the prickly pears and no one else has dared go near them. But I did sing *The Bare Necessities* to her.



We had a singalong this weekend when we convinced the kids to come and watch the end of the Last Night of the Proms on TV. It was a wonderful concert and we felt it was important for them to experience this particular piece of British culture. It is rather odd to listen to a crowd singing *Rule, Britannia* with words bordering on jingoistic fanaticism, while waving more EU flags than Union Jacks. I had a private fantasy that maybe Michel Barnier or Angela Merkel may have called up Nigel Farage to ask if he was enjoying the concert...?

Barnier or Angela Merkel may have called up Nigel Farage to ask if he was enjoying the concert...?

Apparently it has been common since the Brexit vote to see EU flags waved, partly because most professional musicians know how much more difficult it now is to tour Europe with an orchestra or band. A quick Google search shows that flags of many European (and other) countries are often waved at the Last Night of the Proms concerts, but on this occasion the Union Jack was almost outnumbered because a pro-EU group was giving out free EU flags outside. The *Guardian* reported that various anti-EU Conservatives are outraged about the BBC coverage and insisting that they 'investigate', while the *Huffington Post* reported that 'the *Daily Mail* isn't going to like this one bit'. I think it's quite amusing personally.



It was also the first Proms series to have female conductors for the opening and closing concerts, but as was pointed out in the closing speech, we still have a long way to go to reach equality (140+ years, I think was stated). Overall, I think it was a wonderfully inclusive and carefully programmed series of concerts.

Lovely Sandi Toksvig was presenting and came out with my favourite quote for the night, which I would love to be true. She explained the composer Richard Strauss apparently gave the following advice to conductors (of orchestras, not lightning): 'Don't look at the brass players – it just encourages them.' Well – in the 'silly' section at the end of the Last Night of the Proms, where they repeat sections of the crowd favourites, the brass were definitely being encouraged. I wondered whether they hold back a bit on the first runthrough – knowing they will have to do a 'spontaneous' encore.... Becky felt they probably just go flat out. Maybe our editors can let us know...

Speaking of spontaneous encores, singing along and inclusive events, we had a lovely time at Greenbelt this year – if you haven't been before, it really is a wonderful experience (probably reported elsewhere in this magazine?). I got to wear my 'Aloo-Gobi-Obiwan-Kenobi-Phobia' t-shirt, which in case you're not familiar is the fear of spicy potato snacks shaped like Jedi. It comes from a song by Harry and Chris (who didn't even bother going off stage before doing their spontaneous encore) – the song is about unwarranted fears and was written in response to the hysteria and phobia around immigrants to the UK. Many other wonderful moments and lots of great food and company – it really is a top-up for the soul.

**Chris Pearce**  
**Ex-churchwarden**

## ***From the registers***

	<b>We congratulate:</b> Neriah John Dee and Kai James Dee, baptised on 8 July Skylar Rose Cartwright, baptised on 6 August
	<b>We remember:</b> Avis Allen, whose funeral took place at All Saints on 25 July Brian Clucas, whose funeral took place at All Saints on 28 July Dadlin 'Dudley' Williams, whose funeral took place at All Saints on 10 August Joan Davies, whose funeral took place at All Saints on 30 August

# ***From the PCC***

Since the last issue of *Saints Alive!*, there was one PCC meeting scheduled for 18 July but this did not take place. The next meeting is scheduled for 19 September which will be a PCC meeting.

There have been one or two developments over the summer which can be reported on at this time.

## **Finance:**

Expenditure: Our treasurer has provided an update on the financial position of the church and reported that expenditure for this year to the end of July 2023 was circa £81K.

Income: The treasurer reported that income this year was circa £118K but it did include a bequest of £39K. The account was effectively therefore currently in deficit to the amount of circa £2K, which shows an improvement on the end of June figure from £8K.

Regular giving: The treasurer reported that the average for the past 12 months was some £468/month up on the previous 12 months' average.

Overall net worth: At the end of July the church balance net worth was circa £218K, but as reported previously did include the as yet unpaid long-term loan of circa £170K to the Development Company. This gave a surplus of circa £48K.

In summary, our treasurer was happy that the account situation was satisfactory except for expenditure on utilities which is still showing in excess of the budgeted figure. However, now that the heating is turned off, and with most of the lights in church not being on during the summer, it is hoped that further utilities costs will remain low. The gas standing charge is still exceptionally high.

Parish Giving Scheme: Our treasurer was pleased with the take-up on the Parish Giving Scheme with a further 38 people agreeing to regular giving by this method in the period since the last report. There are still people considering thinking of transferring to this Direct Debit method of regular giving.

**Churchwardens:** A replacement or replacements for Chris Pearce is still being sought for the post of churchwarden or churchwardens. This is the first time ever, as far as can be recalled, that there has been no one prepared to take up this important role. In the interim, a rota of former wardens is fulfilling duties, particularly for services.

**Policy review lead:** In order to function well as a community of organisations, the church and the five organisations on the site have some 30 policies. Each policy has to be reviewed every three to five years.

A policy review lead is required to work in conjunction with the PCC, the PCC secretary and the parish administrator to help with the periodic review of these policies.

The policy review lead would be required to liaise with the five boards to implement the review of a policy when the time arises and manage the review process on behalf of the PCC.

Currently, our Health and Safety Policy and our Creating a Safe Environment Policy are due for periodic review.

If anyone from the congregation feels that this is something that they would like to assist with on the church's behalf, please contact the PCC secretary Tony Cocks on 07763 063257 or [tony.cocks@talktalk.net](mailto:tony.cocks@talktalk.net).

**Air entering heating system:** The diocese is providing assistance via their People & Places Parish Support Services, which assists with HR, buildings and bookkeeping in its deaneries.

We have been liaising with their building surveyor regarding our response to the findings of the quinquennial inspection and, more urgently, the repair to the leak in the heating pipework. Now that the heating has been switched off, the system can be emptied if needs be to effect a repair. To date we have met with the surveyor and a prospective pipework contractor in the church to view the leak area on the north side of the church. The building survey has now received one price for undertaking the repair but is seeking a second for completeness and comparison.

**Archiving:** A considerable archive of historic documentation is currently stored on the site accumulated by former members of the church, particularly Margaret Shepherd and Stan Budd whom some readers will know were longstanding members of the church. These records are currently stored in the South Vestry. There is also more recent documentation stored in the coach house (next to the vicarage), as well as other locations both on and off the site. It is proposed that this in many ways interesting collection is to be catalogued and made accessible to the congregation and the community.

A small group of interested persons who are also keen to work on the sorting and arranging of this archive material has been formed and has had an initial meeting to progress this initiative. A lead person with appropriate qualifications and experience has been identified to assist with this task.

It is proposed to apply for funding to provide means to assist with enabling the material to be sorted, cross-referenced, digitised and stored, and made available in a secure form before the end of the year. The extent of the data is to be established to be able to scope the size of the project as a whole.

It is also proposed to invite partners from the community who may provide material, advice and additional funding.

This is considered an important initiative and will provide yet another valuable link with our community.

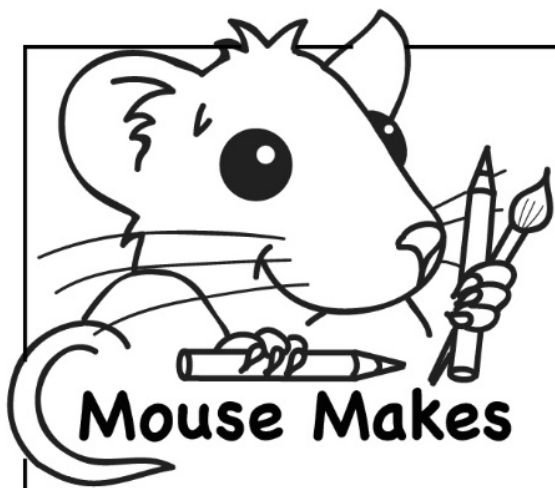
**Baby-changing facilities:** Following a recent request for these to be reinstated, a pristine baby changing table has been provided in the toilet at the back of the church.

**Next meetings:** these are scheduled as follows

SC meetings: 17 October, 12 December 2023; 20 February, 16 April, 18 June, 15 October 2024.

PCC meetings: 18 July, 19 September, 21 November 2023; 16 January, 19 March, 21 May 2024.

**Tony Cocks**  
**PCC Secretary**



## THE WEEDS AND THE WHEAT

What did the enemy sow  
amongst the wheat?

Matthew 13:25



### READ

the parable in

Matthew 13 v24-30,  
and v36-43

At harvest time the weeds  
are gathered, bundled then

but the wheat is stored  
in the

Matthew 13:30

Who sows the good seed?

Matthew 13:37

What does the field represent?

the  
and who is the good seed?

The people of the

Matthew 13:38

Who sows the weeds?

The

Who are the harvesters?

The

Matthew 13:39

"He who has  
ears, let him  
"

Matthew 13:43

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

PARABLE • HEAVEN • SOWED • GOOD • SEED • FIELD • ENEMY • WHEAT • GRAIN  
GROW • TOGETHER • TIME • HARVEST • GATHER • BUNDLE • TIE  
PEOPLE • DISCIPLES • JESUS • EXPLAIN • EVIL • FIRE • END • AGE • EARS

Find the words from the questions too!

# A Gardener's Reflection

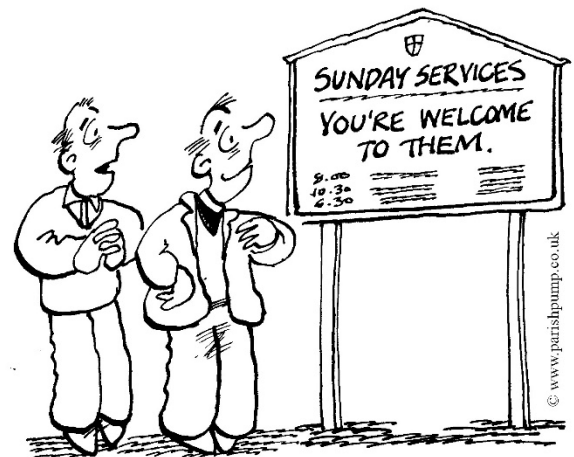
*Thanks to Martha Ann Brookes, who had this  
from Margaret Shepherd and passes it on.*

First look at the weeds,  
weed out gossip,  
weed out laziness,  
weed out indifference  
and weed out pride.

Plant five rows of peas:  
patience, peace, promptness, politeness  
and prayer.

Then plant five rows of lettuce:  
let us be faithful,  
let us be loving,  
let us be useful,  
let us be trustful  
and let us be grateful.

Then we can turn to the reliable turnips:  
turn up on time,  
turn up with a smile,  
turn up with a new idea  
and turn up with new determination.



## Get involved...!

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

This is *your* magazine – the broader the range of contributors and of topics covered, the more interesting it will be!

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@allsaintschurchkh.org](mailto:magazine@allsaintschurchkh.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. 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. The church's Charity Commission Number is 1145723. 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](mailto:magazine@allsaintschurchkh.org)  
**07967 730156 / 07929 593097**

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<b>Name:</b>	The Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church	<b>Account no:</b>	71801163
<b>Reference:</b>	GPF (magazine)	<b>Sort code:</b>	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](mailto:zena_steveb@btinternet.com).

# High days and holy days

## 6 September – Captain Allen Gardiner, founder of SAMS

Captain Allen Gardiner is a saint for anyone who refuses to give up on their calling, for this courageous and indomitable man founded what became the South American Mission Society, though he sacrificed his own life in the process.

Gardiner had not started out to be a missionary. Born in 1794, he had left Berkshire to embark on a naval career which took him to Cape Town, Ceylon, India, Malaysia and China. But the death of his first wife in 1834 caused him to turn back to Christianity. He soon left the navy, in order to become a missionary.

With his second wife, Elizabeth, Allen Gardiner felt called to South America. But from 1838 onwards he faced implacable opposition from the authorities there, both secular and religious. His efforts to evangelise among the Chilean Mapuches – which included a family journey of 1,000 miles overland by pack mule from Buenos Aires to Santiago and Concepción – met with hostility. So in 1842 he settled on the Falkland Islands and tried to reach out to the Patagonian Indians. By 1844 he had founded the Patagonian Mission, because no other British Christian society felt able to take on responsibility for his work.

Next, Gardiner reached out to the Bolivian Indians of the Gran Chaco, but was again repulsed. So, he turned back to Patagonia, and decided to spearhead a bold attempt to evangelise the Indians of Tierra del Fuego. He tried to raise the funds for a 120-ton schooner which would have provided him with a secure base near Picton Island. But in the end, he could only manage two 26-foot launches, Pioneer and Speedwell. Nevertheless, in December 1850 Gardiner and six other men sailed to Picton Island – but again they met with disaster. Fierce weather, Indian hostility, a series of errors and logistical problems led to disease; by March 1851 the group had had to flee for their lives. They sailed eastwards to Spaniard Harbour, a bay at the mouth of Cooks River. Here they waited in vain for fresh stores to arrive, and by September all six men had died of starvation.

Gardiner's journal, water damaged but readable, was found in his hand the following year by the crew of HMS Dido, and includes the plea to God 'Let not this mission fail', and this prayer:

*'Grant O Lord, that we may be instrumental in commencing this great and blessed work; but should Thou see fit in Thy providence to hedge up our way, and that we should even languish and die here, I beseech Thee to raise up others and to send forth labourers into this harvest...'*

The work of the South American Society in the subsequent 160 years and the growth of the Anglican Churches of South America are God's answer to that prayer. Gardiner had to face many failures in his life, but his solid, resolute faith is an inspiration.

## 23 September – When the sun goes edgewise, and daytime equals night

23 September is the autumnal equinox (if you live in the northern hemisphere) or the vernal (Spring) equinox (if you live in the southern hemisphere). The equinoxes occur in March and September, when the Sun is 'edgewise' to the Earth's axis of rotation, so that everywhere on earth has 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness.

(adapted from [www.parishpump.co.uk](http://www.parishpump.co.uk))

# Who's Who

## **Worship** *(for clergy see back page)*

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

## **Church upkeep**

Vergers	Liz Haskins	c/o 0121 444 0760
	Paul Smart	c/o 0121 444 0760
Sacristan	Bernice Mattis	c/o 0121 444 0760
Altar Linen	Wendy Ross	0121 444 1423
Head Server	Tony Price	01564 824420
Electoral Roll Officer	Tony Cocks	0121 441 2945
Parish Magazine	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 2945
Gift Aid	Philip & Martha Ann Brookes	0121 444 5655
Envelope Giving Scheme	Martha Ann Brookes	0121 444 5655

## **Groups, clubs and organisations**

All Saints Ramblers	Des Workman	0121 572 3553
	Christine Powell	
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	Eira Jones	c/o 0121 444 0760
Traidcraft	Gill Parkin	0121 604 6127

**Planned giving:** All are invited to join the planned giving scheme, contributing by Direct Debit (Parish Giving Scheme), Standing Order or Weekly Envelope. 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. The church's Charity Commission Number is 1145723.

**Parish Office:** For enquiries about baptisms, baby naming services, banns and marriages, please contact the Parish Office: 9.30am-3pm Monday-Friday or via [parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org](mailto:parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org).

**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 9:15am 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)***

<b>Officers</b>	Lay Vice Chair	Secretary	Treasurer
	Vacant	Tony Cocks, 0121 441 2945	Steve Brittle, 01905 772171
<b>Members</b>	Jim Andrew	Margaret Healey-Pollett	Chris Watts
	Margaret Andrew	(Reader)	Claire Wesley (Reader)
	Martha Ann Brookes	John Parkin (Reader)	Daniel Wilson
	Philip Brookes	Chris Pearce	Sarah Wilson
	Tim Cuthbertson	Vivien Tilsley	Des Workman
	Brian Miles	David Warbrick (Vicar)	Sheila Workman

***All Saints Community Development Company (ASCDC)***

Chair	Sarah Wilson	c/o 0121 444 0760	<a href="mailto:office@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">office@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>
Projects Co-ordinator	Andy Savage	c/o 0121 444 0760	<a href="mailto:andy@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">andy@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>
Facilities Manager	Dave Priday	07732 137772	<a href="mailto:david@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">david@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>
Administrator	Angela McDermott	0121 444 0760	<a href="mailto:angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>
Hall & Room Bookings	Angela McDermott	0121 444 0760	<a href="mailto:angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk">angela@allsaints-cdc.co.uk</a>

***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 444 8111
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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	Vacant Vacant	
Licensed Readers	Margaret Healey-Pollett John Parkin Claire Wesley	c/o 0121 444 0760 0121 604 6127 0121 444 2778
Pastoral Care Team	Juliet Bick, Becky Frall, Margaret Healey-Pollett, Tariro Matsveru, Wendy Ross, Lu Skerratt-Love, David Warbrick, Jenny Warbrick, Des Workman	0121 444 0260
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Eira Jones	<a href="mailto:safeguarding@allsaintschurchkh.org">safeguarding@allsaintschurchkh.org</a> 07497 781681
Prayer Circle	(for confidential prayer requests)	<a href="mailto:parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org">parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org</a> 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.allsaintschurchkh.org](http://www.allsaintschurchkh.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@allsaintschurchkh.org](mailto:parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org)*

*[www.allsaintschurchkh.org](http://www.allsaintschurchkh.org)*



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