

Saints Alive!

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



September
2024



£1
(suggested donation)

*Hi ho, hi ho,
it's time for panto you know...*

Snow White

CASTING CALL!

Sunday 15 September 2024, 15:00, in church

Anyone interested in auditioning for a speaking part in the 2025 pantomime is invited to come to the casting. It's very informal and no prior preparation is required!

Those interested in being a part of the chorus, or who are just wanting to find out more, are also invited to attend at the start to register interest and get on the mailing list.

If you're interested in being involved, but can't come on 15 September, please speak to Clare Noakes or email players@allsaintschurchkh.org

Performances: Saturday 8 February 2025

From the curate

Dear reader,

With the summer holidays slowly drawing to a close, I can't help but wonder where the time has gone! It's just four months until Christmas; how the year has flown by – but I'm not going to jump into that as yet. September marks the beginning of a new year, not the year as I was used to but rather the academic year among many other things that start in September.

I can only wonder at the busy feet especially this first week of September as checklists are up: school shoes – check; schoolbag – check; uniform – check; work mug – check; workbag – check... And the list goes on. It's the start of a new year, some going back to a familiar school, others starting at a new school, college or university, while for others it's a new job, or a new routine at their usual place of work. New beginnings bring with them new opportunities and energy, from hearing what is new in a colleague's life to making new friends and reconnecting with old ones. This can be both challenging and exciting.

I always go back to the Bible whenever I need encouragement, and the Bible has so much to offer us at every stage of life. When we go back to the story of creation in Genesis and in the beginning we hear that everything that was created was good, even God said so! This gives me something positive to begin with and dwell on. Secondly, I think of what attitude to have as I begin. I like the passage from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 as it says: *'Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'* It encourages me to start with a positive attitude and to be joyful about the new. It means that we can give thanks for our summer holidays and step forward with prayer trusting that God will see us through the next thing.

For some of us maybe summer did not turn out the way we wanted due to cancelled plans or a loss. There was indeed a lot that happened, including the rioting following the stabbing of young children in Southport. Though there was disruption within many communities which might have caused some of us to be fearful; God offers us hope in new beginning. Isaiah writes of this as he says: *'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.'* He further adds that God says: *'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up.'*

We can let go of our fears as we put our trust in God for new beginnings and all they offer. A hopeful positive attitude definitely helps not just in how we do but also in how we see things. My prayer as we step into this new season is that we be reminded that we do not do this of our own strength but in the power of God who gives life and sustains us.

From me, I would like to say thank you for all your support throughout summer while David and Jenny have been away. I'm grateful for how we have positively journeyed together, embracing all that came our way as a community standing together to support and celebrate each other.

With love and prayers,

Tariro

(The photographs on the front cover are of some of the vehicles seen at the Classic Car Show on the Village Square on the August Bank Holiday Monday.)

Birmingham Heritage Week

All Saints is participating in Birmingham Heritage Week for the first time.

The recently-formed Archives team, led by Vivien Thickett, have made good progress in the last few months. After sorting 160 years of parish magazines, letters, maps, plans, photographs and other fascinating documents, All Saints is ready to deliver its first Birmingham Heritage Week event.

On **Saturday 7 September**, All Saints will open its doors for to the public **from 10am to 2pm**. The Church has been an icon and community resource at the heart of Kings Heath ever since it was consecrated in 1860. Everyone is warmly invited to come in and discover its interesting interior and a little about its past.

Visitors may wander around at leisure or, for a more detailed visit, join one of our free guided tours at 11am and 12pm. Leaflets for a self-guided tour are also available.

Admission is free and donations are welcome.

A small exhibition includes details about the history of the building, generous donors and decades of outreach and education. The archives demonstrate the continuing relationship between the needs of the diverse local population and the growth of All Saints and illustrate the ambitious long-term vision of its leaders.

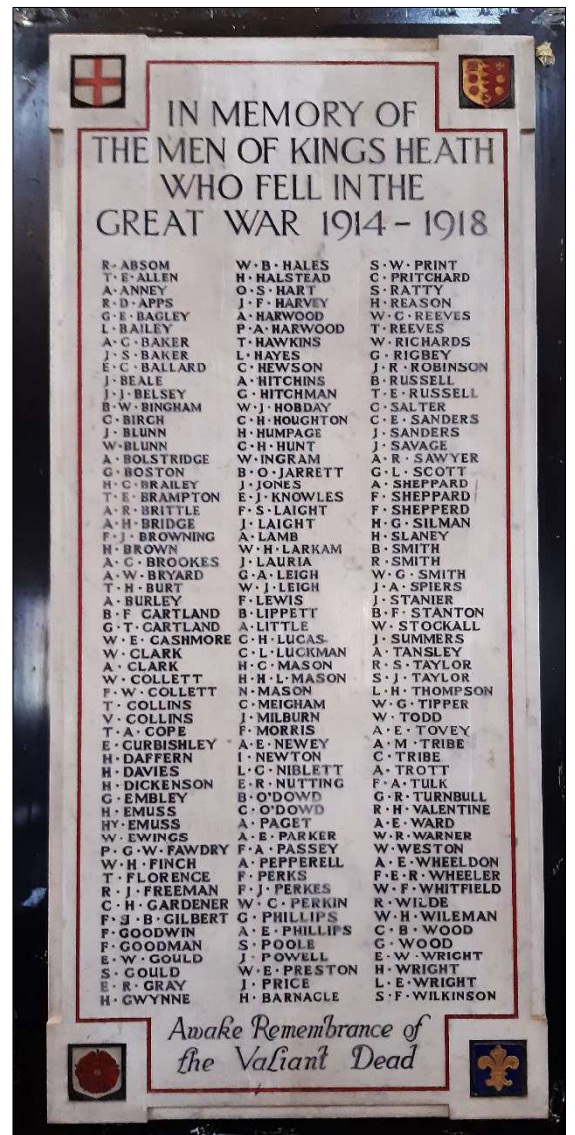


All Saints and old School Room, 1875



All Saints Dancing Class, 1922

Kings Heath sadly lost many members during the 1914-1918 war. After a significant amount of research, the event will also share the stories of some of the 171 fallen named on the WWI War Memorial and the part they played in the Great War.



WWI memorial

There is still much work to be done on the archives to make this valuable resource accessible and searchable. We are delighted to welcome Hannah Gadd from the University of Birmingham to work with the Archives team on student placement from September and are confident this will enable further progress. Any further offers of assistance with cataloguing and storing our material are very welcome.

We look forward to seeing you.



Gravestones in situ, pre-1948

A Festival of All Saints Weddings: Past, Present and Future

After several months of enthusiastic planning the **Wedding Festival** will be in church on the weekend of **Friday 27-Sunday 29 September**.

The Festival programme is as follows:

Friday 27th	6:30-8:30pm	Launch event and preview for all contributors, volunteers and invited guests
Saturday 28th	10am-3pm 3-4pm	Exhibition open Concert of wedding-related music
Sunday 29th	10am 12-2pm	Eucharist celebrating love and commitment Exhibition open

We look forward to welcoming members of the church and the local community into All Saints throughout the weekend.

There will be some great photos, personal stories of wedding day dreams and dramas and wedding dresses and outfits from the 1940s to the 21st century.

The Festival offers a journey through local history, illustrating changing local occupations, fashions and wedding trends. It also demonstrates a long thread of continuity with generations of the same family marrying at All Saints.



In celebrating long term love and commitment the Festival will also remember those for whom the word 'wedding' does not immediately prompt a smile. The heartbreak of those who would have liked to be married in church but could not, due to sexual orientation or divorce, will be recognised,

as will the sense of loss for those who have suffered unhappy relationships, divorce, widowhood or an unfulfilled wish to meet the right partner.



Music will be a central part of the weekend. Ben and Clare would welcome any requests for favourite wedding-related music at Saturday afternoon's concert, or Sunday's special Eucharist focusing on love and commitment. Please send any suggestions for a hymn, song, anthem, voluntary or other piece of music to music@allsaintschurchkh.org (along with a sentence or two about why you have chosen it, if you would like) and they will try to programme as many as possible.

The preparation and delivery of the Festival will require many volunteers to install it, welcome guests and then break it all down.

If you can volunteer any time at all, even for just one hour, on Friday 27, Saturday 28 or Sunday 29 September please email the Parish Office at parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org FAO Marion, speak to Marion in church, or sign up to the lists on the Welcome Desk.

Marion Wilson

The Christian Aid quiz is back!



Saturday 21 September – everyone welcome in the Church Hall

Tickets from the All Saints Café or the church on Sunday mornings
(ask for Des, Sheila or Pam)

Doors open 6:30pm; the quiz starts at 6:45pm prompt

Prizes for the winners and best team name

Don't worry if you are on your own – we can put you in a team

Tickets just £10 for adults, £8 for children under 15

Includes a supper of vegetarian spaghetti bolognese with garlic bread

Bring your own alcohol (soft drinks on sale)

Have some fun – raise money for Christian Aid and test your knowledge!

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

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

The reuse of the All Saints knitted

Christmas Tree... or happy cats!



Did you ever wonder what happened to our wonderful knitted Christmas Tree erected at All Saints some years ago? Many people were involved building the wood and MDF centre, and the Crafters and friends knitted hundreds of squares to make the leaves.

We used it for two years then the decision was made to return to purchasing a traditional fir tree. The wood and MDF were reused, but what of the hundreds of knitted squares? They had been sprayed with fire retardant to ensure that they could not catch fire. The Crafters looked to see whether they could be made into large blankets for the homeless, but they were not suitable. They visited two animal shelters to ascertain if they could be used as pet blankets; alas, at the first they were told that they could kill dogs as they might chew them up and choke on the wool.

A very despondent Sheila put them away, having washed some and sewn them up to make small blankets.

Sheila decided to try again and visited the Cats Protection League at Wythall who said that they would have them all! Cats do not chew up the blankets but snuggle into them. Rehomed cats are given a blanket at the shelter, then when they find a home the blanket acts as a comforter when they go to their new abode. So if you or a friend adopt a cat from the Cats Protection League it will come complete with a small knitted blanket which was once an All Saints Christmas tree leaf.

Des & Sheila Workman

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

T: 07967 730156 / 07929 593097

Music matters

Many tributes have been, and will continue to be, paid to Bishop Mark Santer, who sadly died on 14 August. Here we share our gratitude for his interest in, and support of, music in church during his time at All Saints.

Every month, when we have put together a draft music list with proposed hymns and songs for each Sunday or other holy day, this list is circulated to those who will be leading worship during that month and they are invited to make suggestions and consider any necessary changes. Bishop Mark was invariably the first to respond (even if it was just to say that, in fact, he wasn't taking any services at All Saints that month and so would leave the decisions to others!), and with some interesting thoughts: about alternatives hymns to those proposed, what music was suitable for which point in the service, recommending a particular tune, or ensuring that nothing totally unknown would be sprung upon the congregation. This was very much in the spirit of discussion rather than instruction, and his input was always thought-provoking and valuable. (I must, however, confess to feeling the sin of pride on occasion, when no changes were suggested for a Sunday on which he was preaching or presiding, or when he would come back to us saying that something we'd suggested was a good idea!) Planning wasn't always done so far ahead, though – one Sunday morning he came in halfway through a choir practice to ask if we could use a particular acclamation before the Gospel, which he proceeded to sing to us for the choir to repeat back and learn...

As has been discussed in this column before, hymn words are often changed and updated and our *Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New* contains a number of such examples, some of which have been rendered better than others. Bishop Mark always pointed out when he felt that this had been done to the detriment of an original text which he clearly missed using (and sometimes one or two choir members spotted him in the congregation clearly singing the 'old' words that he favoured!), but this would never stop him including an amended hymn if he felt that overall it was still the right one for a particular point in the service – while one year he did specifically ask for the un-updated words for *Lo, he comes with clouds descending* ('deeply wailing' rather than 'deeply grieving', etc), generally requests were more along the lines of his for *He who would valiant be*, in 'whatever version our hymnbook provides' while noting ruefully (and correctly): 'I don't suppose we'll get Bunyan's original hobgoblins and foul fiends!'

He was also, of course, aware that his views were not universal either (once humbly thanking us for accommodating his 'wishes and prejudices' in a particular service), and in an email correspondence we were part of on the subject of altering hymns he noted: 'This is a difficult issue, and it also applies to translations of the Bible. People think that the meaning of words and of their social context is stable, but this is not so. There are particular issues here which do not apply in, say, the performance of Shakespeare. Believers read and use religious texts like hymns in order to recognise and express the faith of the Church as their own. Some old texts become unusable. Alteration of words is tricky, and in unskilful hands often results in the replacement of one problem, such as language now perceived to be gendered, by another, either grammatical or theological.'

Bishop Mark enjoyed going to concerts and listening to music and would often catch us after a service to talk about something that he had recently attended or heard. Equally often these conversations would be sparked by one of the hymns that had just been sung, or a voluntary that had been played. Clare and I were honoured to provide music for the funeral of Bishop Mark's wife Sabine in 2021; and before he moved down to the south coast I was pleased to be invited to his house and to take a selection of hymnbooks and records that he would not have room to keep –

unsurprisingly, the range of hymnals was wide and included an update of *The Australian Hymn Book* and the 21st-century *Sing Praise* (comprising 'hymns and songs for refreshing worship'). Occasionally we would hear from Bishop Mark after his move, whether sending us the details or a picture of an organ heard or seen in a church while on holiday, or the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's musical Christmas card!

What a privilege for us at All Saints to have had Bishop Mark involved so closely all aspects of our worship and church life – he will be greatly missed.

Ben Noakes
Music Co-ordinator

Bible Bite A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Matthew chapter 20 verses 1-15

Jesus told a story to describe God's kingdom. A vineyard owner went to the marketplace at dawn to hire workers to pick his grapes.

I'll pay you the normal wage for a day's work.

He went out again at 9 o'clock ...

and mid-day ...

and 3 o'clock ...

and again with just 1 hour to go before sunset.

I'll pay you a fair wage

At the end of the day..

They were given a whole day's wage..

and so were those who had worked all day.

Pay the last workers first.

You paid them the same and we worked all day!

I want to give those who were hired last the same as you got.

My friend, you agreed to work for a day's wage

Or are you jealous because I'm good to others?

Jesus concluded...

Can't I do what I want with my own money?

So those who are now last will be first, and the first last.

Musical reflections

In the last issue we looked back at The Big Hymn Sing, a service of popular hymns held at All Saints as part of the Royal School of Church Music's Music Sunday in June. During this service four people spoke about the role that music has played in their life and that of the church, and we are grateful to be able to print these in the magazine. Below is the short talk given by Lynn Busfield.

I wonder if it was like this God?

On the 8th day of creation

after you had made the heavens and the earth

after you had rested and the world seemed to be working as it should,

you said, 'Let there be music'

and there was ...

... and it was very good,

Yes, you said, the people will need music,

the mournful rhythms of the field chants of the slaves,

the songs of triumph when they break their chains

the hymns that will enliven their worship and draw them closer to me.

So you said: 'Let there be drums and trumpets and flutes,

let there be pianos and saxophones and cymbals

let there be guitars and vibraphones and voices to sing & chant.'

And you said: 'Let there be writers of music

and lyrics with which to worship me ...

King David, St Ambrose and St Ephraim

Isaac Watts, John Newton and Charles Wesley

Fanny Crosby, John Taverner and John Rutter

Graham Kendrick, John Bell & Matt Redman.

And you said, 'Let the people meet with me by joining in,

let them clap their hands and tap their feet and dance

let them be refreshed and renewed through their worship

let them be strengthened to withstand the trials their lives will have.'

You said, 'Let there be Music'

and there was.

*And it is **so** strong and **so** beautiful that here in this holy place*

we know it could not have happened unless it came from you.

The Bible mentions music and song many times. From Adam singing in response to the creation of Eve in Genesis, to the song raised in heaven in praise of God's sovereignty in the book of Revelation. And even Jesus is mentioned singing with his disciples in Matthew chapter 26.

But the best known collection of songs in the Bible is the book of Psalms, a compilation of Hebrew poems, songs, and prayers – many of them written by King David, who was himself a poet and played the harp. In the first book of Chronicles we read that this collection was used in the temple in Israel for worship and was brought back into use in the construction of the second temple after the Babylonian exile.

Music – be that hymns or modern worship songs, played on a guitar or an organ, sung by a choir a praise band, helps us to worship. This is what should make music in church services distinctly different from performance pieces we go to listen to in a concert.

Music helps build community. Whether we sing in a group or take part in congregational singing, we do so as the whole people of God giving voice in worship. When we share in music we are changed from worshipping individuals into a worshipping people.

Music lifts our worship on to another plane. St Augustine wrote: *'The one who sings prays twice.'* When we sing the meaning of the words is enhanced. Rhythm, melody, harmony and texture can help us to absorb words which lodge deep within us and shape us as Christians. Music helps words that express the truth about God become part of us and feed us from within.

Music also has the power to help us 'draw near to God' to come into his presence and login to the worship of heaven. Many of the pictures of heaven in the Bible are of people singing, together around God's throne. Music can help do this and in bringing us closer to God, can give us a glimpse of his glory and open us up to be transformed by his love.

Music as an art form has always connected deeply with people of all cultures and languages throughout history. Making melodies with voices and instruments has been a key part of the expression of our experiences. When words fail us, and the circumstances of our physical lives confine us, music is an outlet for the hopes and dreams, passions and desires, the tension and confusion, and even the changes taking place within us.

Music connects with us on a level nothing else does, and for that reason, people have always recognised a divine power and spirituality to music.

Yet no matter how societies around the world relate to music, God's people should have a special claim on the art of song. The power of great music lies in the power of the Gospel story, of God calling his people home. If you believe in God, you have a framework for enjoying music that is more satisfying to heart and mind, and more authentic to the actual experience of that enjoyment.

So while the world at large may use music in their search for meaning, for expression, or simply pleasure and distraction, the Bible reveals a much deeper, ancient, and more powerful purpose at work when followers of Christ lift their voices. But it must be singing: muttering won't do the trick! As we sing together it unites us, especially if we can listen to those around us and blend our voices with theirs. Sometimes the tune can express our praise even better than the words and we almost lose sight of the words. That doesn't matter – we praise God through our hearts and not just with our minds.

As Psalm 66 verse 16 says: *'Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.'*

High days and holy days

14 September – Holy Cross Day

On Holy Cross Day the Church celebrates the cross as a symbol of triumph, as the sign of Christ's victory over death. Holy Cross Day goes right back to the 4th century, and we have the mother of a Roman Emperor to thank for it.

Helena was a devout Christian, and after her son Constantine was converted, they agreed that she should travel from Rome to Israel, and seek out the places of special significance to Christians. Of course, much of Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Romans around the year 135, but even so Helena finally located what she believed to be the sites of the Crucifixion and of the burial (and modern archaeologists think she may well be correct). The sites were so close together that she built one large church over them – the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. That church, built in honour of the cross, was dedicated on 14 September 335.

The sign of the cross has been used by Christians since early times. Tertullian, writing his *De Corona* (3:2) around 211, noted that Christians seldom did anything significant without making the sign of the cross.



What is its significance? Well, people often put their initials or some sort of personal mark on something to show that it belongs to them. The cross is the personal mark of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we mark it on ourselves as a sign that we belong to him. Even in the book of Revelation, we read that the servants of God are 'sealed' or 'marked' on their foreheads as a sign that they are his.

A preacher once put that if you were explaining to someone how to make a cross, you would say: 'Draw an I.' That is you standing before the Lord, saying: 'Here I am.' Then cancel that vertical stroke with a horizontal stroke – as if to say: 'Lord, I abandon my self-will and make you the centre of my life instead. I abandon myself to your love and service.'

On Holy Cross Day, we recall Jesus' wonderful promise: 'And when I am lifted up, I will draw all men unto me.' (John 12:32)

(adapted from www.parishpump.co.uk)

From the registers

	We congratulate: Alexander William Anthony Higgins, baptised on 11 August
	We remember: Mary O'Regan, whose funeral took place on 27 August

From the PCC

Since the last issue of *Saints Alive!* there has been one PCC meeting on 23 July. At the meeting, the discussion included the following which may be of interest to readers:

Finance:

Expenditure: Our treasurer provided an update on the financial position of the church that expenditure from the beginning of January 2024 to the end of June 2024 was circa £70.3K.

Cost of utilities: The treasurer said that these are still quite high, although cost for gas is lower now as the heating has been switched off for the time being. Notwithstanding that, the standing charge is still relatively high.

Income: The treasurer reported that income to the end of June 2024 was circa £66.K so there is a circa £4.3k deficit. He added that typically expenditure in the first half of year is usually higher than income but is taking time to even out. The deficit has been made higher as money from one or two sources including the Inland Revenue tax refund expected in June actually arrived in early July and the deficit would have been significantly less taking these sums into account.

Church and room rental: The rooms at the back of the church and use of the church is bringing in more than budgeted which is promising.

Bequest: A bequest with respect to the late Margaret Shepherd's estate is expected once probate has been completed.

Regular giving: The average for the past 12 months was some £620/month extra, similar to April's average, which the treasurer considered to be very reasonable. It was noticeable that the amount given through the Parish Giving Scheme is still increasing.

Easter Walk of Witness insurance: Money from other churches to cover their portion of the cost of insurance for this event has not yet been received. It is understood that this is due to Churches Together in Kings Heath not having a treasurer at this time. The matter to be followed up.

CCLA investment: Money in this account is still giving a very good return at the moment.

Wedding fees: It is understood that there were some wedding fees due from two events which Tariro has been endeavouring to obtain; she was having some difficulty but expected it to be resolved shortly. Discussion took place as to whether the arrangement for securing wedding fees from couples should be more formal and whether advanced payment should be introduced similar to payment for a wedding reception, for example. At this time, the number of weddings held in the church is quite small so it is not a major issue and the situation is to be monitored.

Overall net worth: The treasurer reported that overall, at this time, the church balance net worth was circa £215K, but as reported previously, did include the as yet unpaid long-term loan of circa £170K to the Development Company with no specific repayment date.

Card payment machine: It is understood that this is now working satisfactorily and has been moved back to its more convenient place near the south door.

Safeguarding:

Training: Safeguarding training for PCC members is stipulated by the diocese and members of the PCC are establishing their status in this respect and completing or updating their safeguarding training and DBS status. This is an ongoing process as some of the diocesan modules have to be repeated every three years.

Incidents: No safeguarding incidents have been reported since the last issue of this magazine.

Churchwarden's report:

Installation service: Our new churchwarden, Vivien Thickett, confirmed that her installation service took place on Tuesday 4 June at Highters Heath Church. It was for a 12-month period. The original arrangement agreed at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting was that she would stand while David, our vicar, was temporarily away on his sabbatical. However, Vivien was proposing to discuss with David whether he wished her to stay on for the full year rather than just the temporary period while he was on sabbatical.

Pigeonholes in corridor: Some concern was expressed that it was realised that the pigeonholes often contained sensitive information and perhaps a more secure location should be found for these. As a post-meeting note, these have now been moved on to the large cupboard in the northwest corner of the nave.

Church clean and tidy-up: Vivien reported that the high-level and one session on the low-level clean had taken place but there was still a bit more to be done. It is understood that a person has volunteered to clean the church. This currently takes place about once a week. The person has been suitably vetted in accordance with the Church policies.

Old Nativity figures: Vivien explained that following the introduction of the new Nativity figures last Christmas that the old Nativity figures were no longer required and had been offered to the congregation. These had been eagerly snapped up. Disposal of some other unwanted items had taken place; the blue chairs are still to be removed.

Monthly updates of Centre development: Sarah Wilson, the All Saints Community Development Company (ASCDC) chair, reported that the development is progressing well. She has displayed at the back of the church a copy of drawings showing the current proposals and photographs of progress to date (mid-July 2024).

Deanery Synod report: Tariro, our curate, reported that various items had been discussed at a recent meeting of the Deanery Synod on 12 June, including the following:

Young people: The main discussion centred around young people and how best to accommodate their requirements and encourage their interest in church worship and other church activities on an ongoing basis.

Bishop Anne: Anne Hollinghurst, Bishop of Aston is moving from her present position at Aston to be the new principal of The Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education in Birmingham. Her inauguration service is scheduled to take place in September 2024. The following link gives more details for anyone wishing to learn more: (<https://www.cofebirmingham.com/news-stories/the-rt-revd-anne-hollinghurst-is-announced-as-the-new-principal-of-queens.php>).

Area Dean: Our Area Dean (of the recently-formed Kings Norton, Moseley and Shirley Deanery, formerly three separate deaneries) has now moved on and there is currently an interregnum. The Venerable Gordon Steele is standing in on a temporary basis.

Oversight Area: Richard Warton, formerly chaplain at the QE hospital is now vicar of St Francis in Bournville and is also the person leading the Oversight Area venture (the Area comprises the parish churches of Kings Heath, Brandwood, Bournville, Cotteridge, Selly Park and Stirchley). A meeting is scheduled to take place in November where representatives from each of the parishes in the Area will be invited to attend to progress this new venture.

Asbestos removal/leaks in heating system: The asbestos lagging and old organ ducting has now been removed from the cellar under the North Vestry and the air checked by an independent consultant and confirmed to be clear and safe. The work was undertaken by Mercia Environmental Services of Kings Norton who undertook it in a very professional, effective and efficient way.

The removal of the asbestos lagging has now permitted safe entry to the cellar and the leak in this area and the main leak in the nave have both been attended to by TBM Heating of Worcester. Again, the work has been to the highest standard and undertaken in a very professional, effective and efficient way. A new drain valve has also been incorporated in the cellar pipework at the lowest point in the heating system to facilitate easy emptying of the system if this is ever necessary in the future.

By the time this magazine goes to press it is expected that the pipework running through the cellar will also have been relagged to reduce heat loss in this relatively cold space.

The diocese is also offering grants to assist churches in their to area finance repair work, especially if there are environmental benefits, and an application has been made with respect to the asbestos removal and heating repair. A response is awaited.

Cross-bearer/acolyte safety: A matter was raised in the meeting regarding a recent incident when a cross-bearer tripped near the altar and dropped the cross in one of the 10am Sunday services. The incident was thought to be due to the carpet around the altar becoming loose and the steps to the altar becoming wobbly. Both have been attended to now and hopefully there should be no more incident of this nature. Credit should go to Vivien and to Martha Ann Brookes, vice chair of the PCC, who attended to this matter effectively and timeously.

Mobile scooter and bicycle parking: Des and Sheila Workman raised concern regarding parking for members of the congregation who come to church on mobile scooters or bicycles which are currently just scattered around the church where there is space.

Possible areas being considered were on the north side of the church, possibly involving re-siting of the large vestments cabinet, or by the south door; although it was also clear that provision for pushchair users should also be taken into account in any viable solution.

It was agreed that users of these methods of transport should be consulted, especially mobile scooter users as they may have limitations on how far they can walk when not in their scooter. Vivien has liaised with individuals who use this method of transport to obtain a clearer picture of their requirements and as a result a space has been created adjacent to the south door on a trial basis for this purpose.

Security: A concern was raised by Tariro regarding a situation where a person in the church on their own for some purpose, eg whilst she is preparing for Morning Prayer weekday services at which sometimes she is the only person there before anyone else comes to attend the service. This would render her possibly vulnerable and in addition a person could enter the church without her knowledge looking for a temporary place to stay or steal items from the church. It was understood that the church is usually locked up in the evening but it is not known if a scan of the church is done before this. The situation to be given more consideration and be investigated in more detail.

The matter of ladies' handbags at the 10am service was also raised and the possibility that unsavoury persons in the church could be tempted to steal them if they are left unattended when for instance members go up for communion, although sidespersons and the churchwarden are usually at the rear of the church for most of the time and this can be fairly reliably be monitored. Nevertheless, people should be aware of this possibility.

Social media: Tariro said that it would be useful to have more social media accounts such as Facebook and Instagram for the church for advertising events such as the forthcoming Wedding Festival. Angela had agreed to set this up on the system.

Youth Project temporary move: Angela, our parish administrator, has given advanced notice that the Youth Project would be moving into the Marjorie Allen and Chapel rooms at the back of church for a while towards the end of this years to enable the main development of the Youth Project area to be completed.

The South Vestry would not be affected. The Lunch Club would be moving temporarily but the location has not been finalised.

Next meetings: These are scheduled as follows:

SC meetings: 15 October, 10 December 2024; 18 February, 15 April (this is Holy Week so meeting may be a week earlier, to be confirmed in due course), 17 June 2025.

PCC meetings: 17 September, 19 November 2024; 21 January, 18 March, 20 May, 15 July 2025.

Tony Cocks
PCC Secretary

Live music in the Café

There are regular live music events in the Café on Fridays between 7 and 9pm.
Entry is free, and refreshments are available from the counter.

The general pattern is as below, but is sometimes subject to change:

<i>1st Friday of the month</i>	<i>Open Mic with Brumside Radio</i>
<i>2nd Friday</i>	<i>Strings and Things</i>
<i>3rd Friday</i>	<i>The Café Band</i>
<i>4th Friday</i>	<i>Voices</i>
<i>5th Friday (if there is one)</i>	<i>Oz and Bob play Blues</i>

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
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>	
Please cancel any previous mandates to this beneficiary on this account number.	
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.

Who's Who

Worship (for clergy see back page)

Children's Worship Co-ordinator	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	Ted Hammond	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 443 5292
	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.

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)

Officers	Lay Vice Chair Martha Ann Brookes 0121 444 5655	Secretary Tony Cocks 0121 441 2945	Treasurer Steve Brittle 01905 772171
Members	Jim Andrew Margaret Andrew Sarah Baker Philip Brookes Tim Cuthbertson	Roger Drew Margaret Healey-Pollett (Reader) Tariro Mukoja (Assistant Curate) Brian Miles David Warbrick (Vicar)	Claire Wesley (Reader) Daniel Wilson Sarah Wilson Des Workman Sheila Workman

All Saints Community Development Company (ASCDC)

Chair	Sarah Wilson	c/o 0121 444 0760	office@allsaints-cdc.co.uk
Projects Co-ordinator	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 444 8111
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Ministry Team

Vicar	David Warbrick	4 Vicarage Road, 0121 444 0260
Assistant Curate	Tariro Mukoja	07305 523619
Churchwardens	Vivien Thickett (interim)	c/o 0121 444 0760
	Vacant	
Licensed Readers	Margaret Healey-Pollett	c/o 0121 444 0760
	Claire Wesley	0121 444 2778
Reader Emeritus	John Parkin	0121 604 6127
Pastoral Care Team	Juliet Bick, Becky Frall, Margaret Healey-Pollett, Tariro Mukoja, Wendy Ross, David Warbrick, Jenny Warbrick, Des Workman	c/o 0121 444 0260
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Eira Jones	safeguarding@allsaintschurchkh.org 07497 781681
Prayer Circle	(for confidential prayer requests)	parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.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.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

www.allsaintschurchkh.org



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND