

# Parish News

**St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden**

**St John, Little Walden and St James, Sewards End**

**Part of Saffron Walden & Villages Team Ministry**



**August - September 2023**

**FREE**

## 50th Anniversary Celebrations



On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Chris Bishop celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his ordination as priest at a special service at St Mary's, Saffron Walden, attended by many friends from the parishes he has served over a wide span of the Diocese of Chelmsford.

Chris studied at Kings College, London and served two curacies in Ilford and Upminster followed by nine years as the Diocesan Youth Officer. In 1986 he was appointed Priest in Charge of Manuden and Berden, to which were later added Quendon and Rickling. As well as 27 years of parish ministry, Chris was chaplain to Stansted Airport for 29 years and took on the responsibility of Rural Dean for 16, being appointed a Canon of Chelmsford Cathedral in 1999.

Annie has been alongside him since their marriage in 1980. On Chris' retirement in 2013, they moved to Saffron Walden where he continues to be very active as a 'recycled priest' – his words! - leading Sunday services across the Deanery and particularly supporting the Swards End and Wednesday 9.30am congregations in our own team.

Chris is chaplain to the Mothers' Union and has responsibility for retired clergy, widows and widowers in the Stansted Archdeaconry. He continues his support of young people by regularly volunteering to help at Swards End Youth Club – refereeing lively games of indoor hockey or dodgeball.

Chris is also a talented folk-singer and story teller and is much in demand at WI and village festivals all over Essex. He took to the airwaves with alacrity during lockdown, writing a weekly series of new songs, in collaboration with Annie and her brother, David, providing his characteristically humorous and insightful view of living with Covid that kept us both amused and engaged.

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## PARISH NEWS - EDITORIAL DEADLINE

The deadline for contributions for each issue is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the previous month. Hence, the deadline for the **October** issue is **Sunday 3rd September**.

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**PARISH NEWS IS A FREE PUBLICATION** and can also be viewed (**in full colour**) online at our parish website:

[www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/parishnews](http://www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/parishnews)

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**St Mary's Church Website:**

[www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org](http://www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org)

## The Rector's Letter

**From The Rev'd Jeremy Trew**

Jeremy writes...

On the day I am writing this I have announced the calling of Rev'd Alex Jeewan and Rev'd John Saxon to pastures new. We trust that, as God called them here, so God also calls them to these new posts to further develop their ministries and to serve new communities. In the weeks after you read this, we will be saying fond farewells to Alex and Caroline, John and Dawn. They will each be missed.

This leaves the Saffron Walden and Villages Team somewhat short staffed; Caroline Currer having left some time ago. We are authorised for two full time and two House for Duty clergy licensed to us. This has not changed, and we are allowed to get on with the recruitment process. Between writing this and you reading it is more than four weeks, and a considerable amount will have been done in that time to move things forward, both regarding working out what form future ministry might take and in preparing for recruitment. A certain amount of this is required to be done in confidence, but I will update you as and when I can.

This month we will also be celebrating the beginnings of new ministries. Ella and Hilary already do a great deal in serving our local church and community. Rev'd Ella Harris will shortly be ordained Priest, and Hilary Walker will be ordained Deacon. Please pray for them as they pass through these doors and enter a new form of service. Both are highly capable, but nevertheless still clergy in training and remain so during the vacancies. I ask that you remember this as we seek to fill service rotas, etc.

Please also hold in your prayers the other clergy who, in retirement, continue to contribute through priestly ministry. As with their licensed colleagues they cannot realistically do more. We may, however, be able to do things somewhat differently.

As Team Rector I am the incumbent for all our parishes during a vacancy. I will be attending PCC's wherever possible and helping in the taking of regular services and occasional offices. I am not, though, omnipresent. As to omniscient or omnipotent, you sussed me out on that a long time ago. Please keep your criticisms gentle and your encouragement high. Please do come to me for guidance and support, either as individuals or congregations. And please remember this: through your baptism you have received the gift of the Holy Spirit as a minister in God's Church. This



Church is not mine or the Bishop's, but ours together under God. It is through being faithful together and working together that we will enrich the Church in this Team and make it an attractive place for clergy to come and join us in this work.

You are, as always, in my prayers.

Jeremy

## **A Prayer for August - September**

*provided by the Prayer Team*

A powerful prayer and hymn attributed to St Francis of Assisi: -

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.

(also set as the hymn 'Make me a channel of your peace').  
St Augustine said, 'They that sing, pray twice'.

## **From the Registers**

### **Baptisms**

18 June Gaia Beatrice Marchioni (at St James Church)

### **Weddings**

22 April Matthew Wilson & Jessica Gray

### **Funerals**

22 May Ronald Naughton

23 May Isobel Wheeler

30 May Ivy Bridgen

21 June Mrs E Mansfield

David Stocks

22 June Valerie Bond



## Eco Progress

I hope you have enjoyed walking through our churchyard this year, observing the changing displays of snowdrops, wild daffodils, primroses, stars of Bethlehem, camassia, poppies and other wild flowers. They have minds of their own and the strength of the grasses in some areas is a challenge, but as they proliferate, so do the insects and pollinators, the birds and small mammals, and within the soil, the trillions of invertebrates and micro-organisms on which our food chains all depend.

The beauty of our wild flowers is really just a by-product of the more significant things that are happening to the ecology!

Eco church has been operating in St Mary's for four years now, as part of the Church of England's goal to reach carbon zero by 2030. Reducing the energy consumption of our cathedral-sized church is still an outstanding challenge, but the PCC has embarked on the exciting process of designing and installing a new, more beautiful and energy efficient lighting system, which will be a significant step forward.

The most important challenge of Eco church, however, is supporting parishioners in reducing their own carbon footprints.

Huge thanks to all of you who took part in our recent survey! 58 of you took part, which was most encouraging, and the results were also very positive. The table below captures many of the findings but headline results include that 66% of respondents always or frequently cut down on their meat consumption; 78% bought local food in season all or most of the time; 56% considered the environment when buying clothes and a massive 90% mended, repaired or recycled their clothing!

Other parts of the survey showed that 73% avoided flying where possible, 83% avoided using their tumble driers and 86% had read articles about the environment and watched TV programmes about it.



There is clearly reticence about writing to our MP, protesting or going on marches. My personal view is that our concern for the precious and delicate environment that God has given us should totally transcend party politics. It is of such universal importance. But as we live in society with each other, we depend on politicians to take actions on our behalf.

Meanwhile it is heartening to think that so many of our congregation are doing what they can, showing their own leadership and demonstrating more sustainable ways of living in Saffron Walden. Thank you.

Eco Survey results: percentages refer to those who clicked on the 'Always' or 'Frequently' options. You can see the full results on the church website at: [www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/ecoquestion](http://www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/ecoquestion)

|  |     |  |     |
|--|-----|--|-----|
| Cut down on meat                             | 66% | Walk or cycle where possible                             | 79% |
| Buy local food in season                     | 78% | Turn down the thermostat                                 | 91% |
| Avoid food wrapped in plastic                | 81% | Reduce water consumption                                 | 84% |
| Buy Fairtrade food                           | 61% | Have ethical savings                                     | 44% |
| Consider the environment when buying clothes | 56% | Donate to charities involved in climate change           | 63% |
| Buy fewer clothes                            | 77% | Offset my carbon footprint                               | 14% |
| Mend, repair or recycle clothes              | 90% | Pray for the environment                                 | 74% |
| Avoid using tumble driers                    | 83% | Read environmental articles                              | 86% |
| Cut down on use of my car                    | 62% | Watch or listen to environmental TV or radio programmes  | 80% |
| Use public transport                         | 51% | Write to local politicians or MP                         | 11% |
| Avoid flying                                 | 73% | Take practical action like litter picks or tree planting | 30% |
| Compensate for my flying                     | 16% | Take part in marches or protests                         | 11% |

Edward Gildea, Eco Team Leader



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## Eleanor Game Completes Her Year in Israel

I have really enjoyed living in Israel and felt very much at home there. I arrived in early September 2022, but my stay felt very much longer as there was always so much going on.

Working on the Church and Guest House compound could be chaotic and required a lot of spontaneity, which meant it was not easy to describe a typical day, but I will have a go. The schedule for the following week was usually given a couple of days in advance and varied each week. This meant that I did not have the same days off each week or the same shifts. If I was working a breakfast shift, I usually woke up at 6am and set up for breakfast as we served a buffet to the guests. We then had staff and volunteer devotions. I then cleared the breakfast and either prepared the food for the next day or spent the time in the dish room. I finished at 2.30pm and often went home for a nap!

In the evenings I sometimes spent time with friends either in a coffee shop or on the compound.

Although I didn't manage to make it every week, joining a messianic congregation was a great way to meet people. I also joined a choir which I was very happy about. It was connected to the Lutheran Redeemer Church nearby and was in German, but fortunately singing together didn't require so much talking!

Jerusalem has been a great place to live as there is so much going on and I felt very safe there. However, travelling to other parts of Israel was a highlight for me. I went with another volunteer and good friend to Haifa for a weekend. We enjoyed seeing another side to Israel and taking in the atmosphere. I spent some time with friends from the congregation in Masada – we took the bus after I finished my shift one evening and then found a place to lay down and sleep under the stars!

Towards the end of my stay the volunteers all went together to spend the day in Galilee. We had a great time and my highlight was walking up Mount Arbel.

Although the work and living in community can sometimes pose a challenge, it is far outweighed by having so many new experiences, learning so much and meeting so many great people, which made me very much appreciate my time in Israel.

Eleanor Game

*(Eleanor went to Israel with the Church's Ministry amongst Jewish People. Rufus Barnes is the Vice-Chair of the ministry and if anyone else is potentially interested in volunteering with CMJ in Israel, please speak to Rufus.)*

## How about advertising in Parish News?

Available in

St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden  
St John's Church, Little Walden  
St James' Church, Swards End  
The Tourist Information Centre  
and online at [www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org](http://www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org)

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## FRIENDS OF THE PARISH CHURCH

St Mary's Friends is a very active group who are The Friends of the Parish Church and have been working hard for almost 90 years. We are able to help financially with minor and major projects, the last major funding paid for the beautiful oak Welcome Furniture that greets you at the West door.

We have a bookstand offering postcards, prints and books for sale to our many visitors. We visit Cathedrals around the country twice a year.

Why not join us and feel part of the process and feel that sense of pride in the work we carry out. There are application forms on our bookstand, and on the website so **come and join us**. Watch this space for update news and activities.

Chairman: Denis Tindley, Sec.: Pamela Mugliston, Treasurer: Sandra Marsh

**We hope you like our new logo!**



### Notice of the date for The Friends AGM

10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 12 noon in the Parish Rooms following the 10.30am Patronal Service.



### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

The Friends are holding an **Open Day** 10am to 4pm

**To celebrate 90 years since their formation**

Do visit and learn something of our history and see some of the projects that have been achieved by, or with the help of the Friends and meet some of our members. Light Refreshments available. Why not join.

The Friends of Saffron Walden Parish Church will be celebrating 90 years since their formation in 1933 during which time they have been extremely active within the Church being responsible for many practical schemes and have striven to bring colour and beauty to the Church.

The work continues to this day with the provision of embroidered kneelers and colourful banners. Larger projects included the Inner doors of the West Porch, the creation of the South Chapel and more recently the funding of the Welcome Furniture at the West Door entrance. All of this has been funded by members of the Friends through subscriptions, donations and legacies.

Come along and see all the work that has been funded and contributed to over the 90 years. Perhaps you too would like to become a Friends' member and help maintain this beautiful Church for generations to come.

We will be happy to see you, show you around and offer light refreshments.

## Radwinter Road Cemetery, Saffron Walden, CB11 3HU

A peaceful space which offers a natural environment for all types of wildlife and as a result is an important nature conservation resource in the town. Daily maintenance and gardening are carried out which ensures the space is both clean and tidy, where residents and visitors can visit for peace and reflection. The Cemetery is divided into different areas; Lawn cemetery, Traditional area, Garden of Remembrance, scattered ashes, and areas for children and young people. There is a separate section for War graves which is cared for by The Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



If you are looking for a final resting place for a loved one, please bear in mind Radwinter Road Cemetery where the gates are always open and there is tranquillity within. For further information please contact Elaine Baynes, Cemetery Officer, at Saffron Walden Town Council, Market Street, Saffron Walden, CB10 1HR. Telephone: 07769 167 179 or email [elaine@saffronwalden.gov.uk](mailto:elaine@saffronwalden.gov.uk)

<https://saffronwalden.gov.uk/services/cemetery/>

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You can also book appointments online at [www.hearinghelpessex.org.uk](http://www.hearinghelpessex.org.uk)

If you are housebound, please ask about our home visits service.

*As usual our service remains completely free of charge, but as a small charity working hard to support Essex residents living with hearing loss, all donations are appreciated.*





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## **The Jubilee Hub in Saffron Walden - a place to connect (formerly The Garden Room, Jubilee Gardens)**

A joint venture between Enterprise East and Saffron Walden Town Council.

The Jubilee Hub is a community centre with a focus on family, older people, children and young people and the community as a whole. The partnership brings together a programme of inclusive activities. These initial activities are the ones requested by residents

### **Monday morning – *Meet Up Monday* – 10am to 12pm**

The Jubilee Hub is open each Monday morning as part of the national “Meet Up Mondays” campaign to promote inclusion and reduce loneliness and isolation. We provide free tea, coffee, biscuits and chat, and the chance to make some new friends and share your life experiences.

### **Monday afternoon – *Singing for the Soul* – 2pm to 3pm**

Join us each Monday afternoon for a sing along. If the weather is nice, we’ll gather outside around our beautiful band stand. Selection of music styles and no particular singing ability required – we are singing songs we love just for the fun of it. Light refreshments available to attendees for a small donation.

### **Thursday Afternoon – *Warm Welcome* 12 - 3pm**

### **Friday Morning – *Digital Buddies* – 10am to 12pm**

Join Ali and Adam each Friday morning for help and guidance with making the most of your technology! We have a particular focus on how to use your smartphone and tablet to access online health service and apps, including how to use the NHS app to make appointments, request medication and access your medical records. This is a drop-in session – no appointment needed. Light refreshments available to attendees for a small donation.

### **Friday Afternoon – *Art Group* 2pm to 4pm**

Price £3 per person

An instructor-led weekly art group. This is an inclusive group open to all ages and abilities – you don’t need to be a skilled artist – just have the desire to be creative and express yourself through painting. Light refreshments available for attendees for a donation. There is a small charge of £3 per person per week to attend, to cover instructor and material costs.

We provide free soup and a roll plus unlimited tea, coffee, biscuits and chat, and the chance to make some new friends and share your life experiences.

**Pop in and see us! Be Part of Our Community**



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**For further information please contact Ros Holder on 01799 551046**

# Calendar

*This calendar is provisional and subject to change. See The Grapevine or the church website for the latest information particularly for streaming of services. Coffee is served after the 10.30am services at Saffron Walden.*

## St Mary's, Saffron Walden

All services take place in church unless shown otherwise. One service in church each Sunday is also streamed on YouTube [Y]: details on the church website.

### Thursday 3 August

- 10am Silent Prayer in the North Chapel
- 1pm Service with Prayers for Wholeness and Healing

### Sunday 6 August

- 8am BCP Holy Communion
- 10.30am Holy Communion [Y]

### Sunday 13 August

- 8am BCP Holy Communion
- 10.30am Second Sunday Holy Communion [Y]

### Sunday 20 August

- 8am BCP Holy Communion
- 10.30am Holy Communion [Y]

### Sunday 27 August

- 8am BCP Holy Communion [Y]
- 10.30am Family Service

### Sunday 3 September

- 8am BCP Holy Communion
- 10.30am Holy Communion [Y]
- 6.30pm H2H - Youth-led service for all in Parish Rooms

### Wednesday 6 September

- 7.30pm Parochial Church Council Members Meeting

### Thursday 7 September

- 10am Silent Prayer in the North Chapel
- 1pm Service with Prayers for Wholeness and Healing

### Sunday 10 September

- 8am BCP Holy Communion
- 10.30am Second Sunday Holy Communion: Patronal Festival [Y]
- 12noon Friends AGM
- 3.30pm Ordination of Hilary Walker as Deacon in Chelmsford Cathedral
- 6.30pm SMMA Festal Evensong



### **Sunday 17 September**

- 8am BCP Holy Communion
- 10.30am Holy Communion [Y]
- 4pm Living Stones service at All Saints, Wimbish, CB10 2XG

### **Saturday 23 September**

- 10am Friends Open Day

### **Sunday 24 September**

- 8am BCP Holy Communion [Y]
- 10.30am Family Service - Harvest Festival
- 6.30pm Taizé service

### **Saturday 30 September**

- 10am Ordination of Ella Harris as Priest in St Peter ad Vincula, Coggeshall

## **Regular weekday services at St Mary's**

### **Tuesdays**

- 5pm Evening Prayer by Zoom, see weekly bulletin for login details

### **Wednesdays**

- 8am Morning Prayer
- 9.30am Holy Communion



## **St James', Sewards End**

### **Sunday 6 August**

- 10.30am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 20 August**

- 10.30am Morning Praise

### **Sunday 3 September**

- 10.30am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 17 September**

- 10.30am Morning Praise

## **St John's, Little Walden**

### **Sunday 13 August**

- 10.30am Family Service

### **Sunday 27 August**

- 10.30am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 10 September**

- 10.30am Harvest Family Service

### **Sunday 24 September**

- 10.30am Holy Communion

## The Hundred Parishes Society

*Editor: The Hundred Parishes Society aims to increase awareness, enjoyment and care of the Hundred Parishes (450 square miles of northwest Essex, northeast Hertfordshire and southern Cambridgeshire). It is not a church-orientated organisation - "Parishes" referring to administrative parishes. The Society is interested in all things historical and local.*

The Hundred Parishes is blessed with an exceptional number of museums, all open at this time of the year.

Saffron Walden Museum was purpose-built in 1835. It displays a real treasure trove of material relating to the local area.

Imperial War Museum, Duxford is enormous, displaying all kinds of wartime material including its own listed buildings from each World War, as well as many aeroplanes, both civilian and military.

Great Dunmow Museum is housed in a former maltings. It encompasses displays about its former function as well as broader elements of Dunmow history.

Forge Museum in Much Hadham includes metal tools from the forge, while its own medieval wall paintings reveal an insight into Tudor fashion. Still in Much Hadham, the hamlet of Perry Green was for many years the home of sculptor Henry Moore. Today, the Henry Moore Studio and gardens includes an extensive outdoor display of his large works and indoors a history of his life.

Ashdon Village Museum has an exceptional display of all aspects of local life in the 20th century - and an excellent tea room.

Stansted Mountfitchet has an extensive toy museum within Mountfitchet Castle which is itself a popular destination for children who





probably don't realise that this fun place is teaching them a lot about the history of Norman times.

Finchingfield's 15th-century Guildhall incorporates a small collection of local history, presented with the help of modern technology.

Great Bardfield has a small Cottage Museum and also a village cage, a former lock up.

Further information for each of these can be found on [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk) – either towards the end of the relevant Parish introduction, on What's On, or on the Attractions pages. There, you will also find information about Fry Art Gallery, Linton Zoo, Hinxton watermill and several windmills. We are, indeed, blessed.

Ken McDonald, Secretary.

Photos in order: Saffron Walden Museum; Imperial War Museum, Duxford; Great Dunmow Maltings Museum; Forge Museum, Much Hadham; Henry Moore Studios; Ashdon Village Museum.



*The start of the football season was the cause of universal joy*



*"But I said you'd be happy to lead a House Group this autumn"*

**YOU in the PEW** interviewed by Chris Bishop**Chris Knight**

I was born in Burton-on-Trent during the war, in 1942. I did not see my father until I was 3, after the war, when he returned from Burma in 1945. My early years were spent with my grandparents who had a business in Burton. Burton was of course a big centre of brewing and my main memory of these early days was seeing the brewery's own trains constantly crossing the roads between different parts of their operations, in the centre of town. My father was a solicitor and worked for Sutton Coldfield BC until we moved to Bury St Edmunds in 1949 where he was Town Clerk for many years and where I went to school; after 11+ to King Edward VI GS. The KEGS had close associations with the Cathedral in Bury and I became a Server there in my mid-teens.

After failing in my first interest, to become a vet, due to then requirements to have a foreign language at O level (at this time Latin for Oxbridge colleges!) I decided to train as a Town Planner. I got a post as an articled pupil to the then West Suffolk (it was 2 separate Counties) Planning Officer. I took up a correspondence course, which, together with courses at technical college, saw me through the required planning qualifications to become a Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute

After my initial post at West Suffolk I moved to Dorset County Planning Dept and soon after my arrival Jane and I were married. We had a DCC staff house, a semi with a garage for about £15 pcm including rates. Dorset was delightful, but a long way from East Anglia. Jane is a Norfolk gal and I had really adopted BSE as home, we moved to St Albans 1969 to our very own first house and 2 of our daughters were born there. We moved in 1971 to Essex where I had been appointed West Area Planning Officer for ECC. We lived at Gt Totham, near Maldon, a lovely area with close access to the sea. Then in late 1973, after the great Local Government Reorganisation which created, amongst other things, Uttlesford District Council, I was fortunate to be appointed as Director of Planning for the new district and early in 1974 we moved to Monk Street, near Thaxted, where we spent 25 years before moving to Walden in 2000. Here we were very involved with Tilty Church in a variety of roles and latterly to a lesser extent with Thaxted also. Our third daughter was born here. After 14 years with UDC I left local government to join Savills where I set up an in-house planning team and was based in the Cambridge office.

Our move to Walden was interesting. We had never been along West Rd before, indeed apart from the through roads we quickly realised how little we

knew of the town. Friends from Thaxted told us we would hate living in the town with neighbours and no privacy! We have never felt like that from day one. We love it here.

We began to attend St Mary's soon after our arrival in Walden. Jane is a very talented flower arranger and has loved working with Pam Russell in St Mary's.

One day I had a phone call from David Tomlinson asking if he could come and have a chat with me. This was a start of our deep involvement with St Mary's! David asked if I would lead the fund raising for the West end internal development project. I suggested I was a bit of a lightweight Christian - David roared with laughter and said I think we are all lightweights. The task was to raise about £350k, some funds were already committed. I agreed. A few weeks after, the heating packed up. Another £150k added to the task! As you know, with God's help we actually raised these enormous sums.

So that is really our journey to St Mary's, a journey we continue today. We are fortunate in having a wonderful family and 2 of our daughters and their families live very nearby. Our third daughter lives and works in Mallorca, which means we do not see as much of her family as we'd like to, although modern technology reduces that barrier considerably. Family life is especially important to us.

So much about Walden is really good. We are so fortunate to live in such an historically splendid place, which also has so much in the way of facilities and amenities to offer. I took up golf again on my retirement and enjoy every aspect of being a member of one of the finest golf courses in the area. The arrival of Saffron Hall nearly 10 years ago has for me provided new opportunities one would not normally expect even in somewhere the size of Cambridge! In addition to the superb performances, which we both enjoy, I love being part of the large band of volunteers.

Both of us see Walden as our resting place. We cannot imagine anything which would tempt us to move from here. We are sure St Mary's will continue to be a big part of our lives.



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## St Mary's Music News - August/September

There were 2 very successful taster sessions on 9 June, one for Joyful Noise and one for the Junior Choir. There were 4 potential recruits at each session, with more children expressing an interest but not able to join in the singing and other activities – dressing up in robes, seeing the organ, playing musical games – on the day. 9 children attended the regular sessions the following week, and we hope they will join permanently as they are the foundation of the choirs.

Choral Evensong on 11 June took place on the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Great Ringing Day, so the choir and congregation were treated both to peals of bells as they entered the church, and to refreshments after the service. It was such a hot evening that the choir were allowed to wear robes without collars or – for the Juniors - ruffs and surplices. Usually Evensong is a quiet, reflective act of worship, but this was a rousing celebration, including both Sumsion's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G, and also Vaughan Williams' Let All the World in Every Corner Sing. Fittingly, the organ voluntary was Langlais' Bells.

The series of 8 lunchtime concerts has been very successful, with a variety of works including singers, pianists, violinists, an organ soloist and the St Mary's Brass Quintet. They have been well attended, and we have received many appreciative comments. The refreshments have also been popular, and several people observed that the "meal deal" is the best value in Saffron Walden. The SMMA is very grateful to all the musicians, and to everyone front and back of house, who contributes to the experience. It is quite an undertaking to put on so many events, and it would not happen without a lot of hard work. We shall find out how much money was raised towards Music Association funds, supporting church worship, when the series concludes.

The "Saturday special" organ concert given by Anna Lapwood on 1 July attracted an audience of nearly 400 people. Anna has a devoted following, and visitors came from as far away as South Africa. She opened with a mesmerizing performance of Kristina Arakelyan's Star Fantasy, then treated us to suites from Interstellar by Hans Zimmer which she had arranged, as well as to music by composers as varied as Bach, Debussy and Philip Glass. She told us that Glass's Mad Rush was written for the Dalai Lama's first public address in North America, and was commissioned to last for up to 40 minutes, depending on how long it took people to enter the building. The version played by Anna was, perhaps sadly, somewhat shorter. Many thanks to Peter De Vile both for organising the concert, and for nursing the organ through the performance. Thanks to his skills, only 1 of the pieces had to be swapped out because 4 of



the stops needed for it had decided to take a summer break. The generous donations received are still being counted, and will be reported on in the autumn.

On the same day, the Junior Choir sang for a wedding blessing at Debden. Only 2 of the 13 choristers had sung for a wedding before, due to lockdown, but they all rose splendidly to the occasion.

Meanwhile we have said farewell to Rosie Kennedy Cadell as a member of the SMMA Committee, and to her son Angus who is leaving his role as a junior chorister at St Mary's to take up a similar role at Ely Cathedral. We wish them both all the best.

Finally, we are delighted to report that Ziyi Wang, a student at SWCH, will be our third Michael Swindlehurst Organ Scholar, and the first female recipient of this award.

Ottilie Lefever

## ***Gelio's Anthology of Obscure Proverbs***

Thinking of holidays and leisure time, here is a Proverb from **China**

***'To be for one day entirely at leisure is to be for one day an immortal'***

Here is another from **Spain** on the subject of Idleness.

***'How beautiful it is to do nothing, and then rest afterward'***



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## Film Club

On the same lines as a Book Club, I'm hoping to form a small group who would like to watch selected films together, and then discuss them from a Christian perspective. If you are keen, or would like to know more, let me know.

Andy Colebrooke

[andy.colebrooke@gmail.com](mailto:andy.colebrooke@gmail.com)



*Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay*

## Saffron Walden Museum announces Summer Art

"Wild about Walden" will see large lion sculptures dotted around Saffron Walden town centre, at places of cultural and historical significance. Each lion will be decorated by a school, community group or by the public at special events around the town, making art accessible to all.

Alongside these will be a 'pride' of smaller lions, which are which are looking for local businesses to adopt them to display in their shop windows. Adoption fees of £15 per lion will go to Walden Community Shed who have kindly made the lions on behalf of the museum. Saffron Walden Community Shed is a charity which provides local people a place to gather, make and mend things, undertake DIY-type projects, drink tea and relax whilst combating loneliness.

There will be an accompanying Wild about Walden map trail which would-be lion spotters can use to locate the lions and find out information about the different venues, businesses and groups involved in the project. It is planned that one of the lions will be in St Mary's. The trail will run from 22 July to 5 September.

Charlotte Pratt, Learning and Outreach Officer at Saffron Walden Museum and the project lead, said: "Community art projects help to bring people together and introduce people who are new to the area to the amazing history, culture, and facilities of Saffron Walden. Wild about Walden will offer everyone a great day out, exploring venues in the town they may not have visited before or might not feel are for them. "I can't wait to see the finished lions around the town and hope everyone who has participated enjoys spotting their contribution."

Uttlesford District Council





Muniments Room

## Archive Group

**A monthly record of pieces of interest from our past Parish Magazines**

**Compiled by our Archivist Canon Chris Bishop**

### August 1926 Coal

The coal struggle still continues to vex our country, and the efforts of the Christian Church to find a solution are not being favourably received. One periodical which makes the ungrammatical assertion that it has 'the largest sale of *any* paper' goes so far (if we rightly understand it) as to tell the Bishops to mind their own business and stick to the theology about which they cannot agree.

The cheap press was ever remarkable for its profound learning! It is surely the duty of all Christians, and especially of Christian leaders, to do their utmost for the society in which they live.

### September 1927 Senior Guild

As several members have asked for an outing this year it has been decided to visit Waltham Abbey and Epping on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Motors will leave the Market Square at 9 o'clock, and after a short stay at Waltham Abbey will proceed to Epping Forest where there are Amusement Parks or rambling parties can be formed. Tea will be ordered for the party but each member must provide Lunch. The charge for the outing, including tea, will be 6/3 for members. Anyone wishing to join the party should send in their names before Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Canon Chris Bishop. Archivist

### A date for your diary: Saturday 9th December

The Rev'd Ella Harris will lead this year's **Quiet Morning** in St Mary's Parish Rooms, on Saturday 9th December. Watch out for details later in the year.

The Prayer Team, [hazel.colebrooke@gmail.com](mailto:hazel.colebrooke@gmail.com)



## A Blooming Mother-in-Law's Tongue

Our Mother-in-Law's Tongue is blooming. This is apparently a rare occurrence especially if grown indoors.

Rufus Barnes

The *Dracaena trifasciata* is also known as Snake Plant, Saint George's sword, and viper's bowstring hemp



## JUST DO IT!

'Just Do It' - maybe we would if we could, or if we knew what 'It' is, or how to go about it. Circumstances change, there's a new stage in life, stress and anxiety knock at the door. It's easier to adapt, move on, take that risk with a bit of encouragement and support from others. But first we have to meet those others. Hence this group, 'Just Do It'.

October 2022 Parish News printed an article about personal growth, and doing things 'Later...'. With the prodding of a friend, Gillian Herbert, this is about to happen. She downloaded the book I recommended, 'Fifteen Invaluable Laws of Growth' by John C. Maxwell. This can be downloaded for free.

If you would like to sit with uncertainty, take a pause to reflect on your life, even take personal growth seriously and do it with others for that support and encouragement, please come along. Meetings will be on Mondays at 3p.m. for an hour, starting 18th September. Gillian has kindly agreed to lead the first one.

The ideas in the book will be a springboard and hopefully someone will agree to lead each week. We plan to meet for fifteen weeks - there being Fifteen Invaluable Rules! And then someone hopefully will put on the kettle.

If you're interested let me know. 01799 529055

Margaret Collingwood

## Quote, Unquote ...

Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh how beautiful' and sitting in the shade. –  
*Rudyard Kipling*

Please don't walk on our church lawn. Grass grows by the inch but is worn down by the foot! – *Anon*



## How *Parish News* is made

This issue sees the completion of four years of the new format *Parish News*. It seems a good time to explain the process that is involved in its production and to thank the army of unsung heroes who help bring it to the bookstall.



Firstly, thank you to all those who contribute articles, reports and notices for publication - without you there would be no magazine. Special thanks must go to those who have provided copy on a very regular basis over the years: Otilie Lefever, Lesley Lancaster, Caroline Goulder, Pamela Mugliston, Brenda Sheath, Charles White, Edward Gildea, Clifford Want (The Calendar), The Prayer Team, Chris Bishop and Jeremy Trew.

Then begins the process of setting the material into the magazine format, selecting photographs and art-work. Thanks go to our small team of photographers who provide a range of eye-catching pictures for the covers and inside pages (their details can be found at the foot of page 3 each issue). Care is taken not to infringe anyone's copyright.

The process then moves on to a meticulous copy editing stage, to remove glitches, spelling errors, and grammatical mistakes - thanks to the dedication of Clifford Want, Martin Hugall, and Hazel Colebrooke.

When all this is completed the magazine is emailed to The Diocesan Print Unit in Chelmsford, who return the final printed copies to us, via a courier service. In addition to the copies displayed in St Mary's, each issue is made available in the daughter churches and the Saffron Walden Tourist Information Office. All issues can be viewed, in full colour, on our church website, with archived copies going back to October 2019.

With such a long process, involving lots of people, I'm sure you can appreciate the need for an early deadline for copy: **the first Sunday of the month prior to the next issue** (the next date is always shown on page 3).

*Parish News* is financed by our advertising income, making it free to everyone to read. Thanks go to Rufus Barnes, our Advertising Manager who deals with all subscriptions. Anyone who may be interested in advertising through us can find our subscription rates on page 10.

Finally, if you enjoy articles in *Parish News*, do let the the writers know - feedback is most welcome and often encouraging. And why not write one yourself?

Andy Colebrooke, Editor



Chris marked this special anniversary by designing a Chasuble which he commissioned from St Mary's sewing group. He wore it during the service and has gifted it to St Mary's. The design is a Tree of Life and Faith, with four roots being the Four Gospels. The trunk of the tree contains a silver cross and the leaves of the tree symbolise the beauty and diverse colours of nature and the human world, with crocuses highlighting our place as a church in Saffron Walden.

Chris preached on the importance of 'Holding Fast' in a changing world – a reference to sailors 'holding fast' to the ropes attached to sails to keep the ship on course. He concluded with the collect for the day:

*O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
Amen*

Congratulations, Chris, on reaching this significant milestone; we look forward to many more gems of wisdom and humour from our 'recycled priest' and we wish you and Annie many more blessings in the years to come.

Judith Hasler

