

Parish News

St Mary's Church, Saffron Walden

St John, Little Walden and St James, Swards End

Part of Saffron Walden & Villages Team Ministry

October 2024

FREE



Members of SMMA lunching with the Starrs. See page 21

New Facebook Page for St Mary's

We now have a new Facebook page for St Mary's, Saffron Walden. Do visit us at www.facebook.com/stmaryschurchsaffronwalden and like and follow.



St Mary's Church Saffron Walden

3 likes • 4 followers

There is a link to this at the bottom of each page of St Mary's website.

Hannah Razzell is kindly managing this page—hannah.razzell@googlemail.com

Contents for October 2024

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| THE RECTOR'S LETTER | 4 |
| NOTICEBOARD | |
| Summer of Wedding Anniversaries | 13 |
| Calendar | 16 |
| From the Registers | 20 |
| Hire of Parish Rooms | 27 |
| REPORTS | |
| Friends of the Parish Church | 14 |
| Friends visit to St Albans | 15 |
| St Mary's Music News | 21 |
| DTI Gathering 2024 | 30 |
| FEATURES | |
| Thank you to Andy Colebrooke | 5 |
| Hamish Walker | 6 |
| Gifts to St Mary's | 9 |
| Update on Lighting Project | 12 |
| You in the Pew | 18 |
| Gelio | 22 |
| A Prayer for October | 23 |
| Walk-around guides | 24 |
| Archive Group | 27 |
| What's In A Name? | 28 |

PARISH NEWS - EDITORIAL DEADLINE

The deadline for contributions for each issue is the 1st Sunday of the previous month. Hence, the deadline for the **November** issue is **Sunday 6th October**.

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www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/parishnews

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www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org



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The Rector's Letter

From The Rev'd Jeremy Trew

Jeremy writes...

September is, as always, a busy month; full of all the meetings and events that the new school term generates. I'll let you in on a secret: I'm always glad when it is over. Now we come to October and the Church can pause for breath and take a look ahead at the various celebrations and commemorations to come in November through All Saints, All Souls and Remembrance Sunday, and beyond those; Christmas.



In October the Parishes of Debden and Wimbish, and the whole Team, will be welcoming our new minister, Rev'd Lynda Sebbage. Lynda will be licensed by Bishop Guli on Thursday 24th October at Debden Church. Please hold Lynda in your prayers. Lynda is an experienced Priest who brings with her many gifts that will strengthen her two Churches and support the wider Team. It may be tempting to hope that things will continue as before now a replacement priest is installed. But Lynda is not John. We trust that just as God called John elsewhere, God also called Lynda here, with her particular gifts and character. This is part of God's work of re-creation: "Behold, I will do a new thing" (Isaiah 43:19).

At the end of September we shall have said goodbye to Matt Williamson. Matt has worked in the Team for a number of years as our Youth and Children's Leader. He has done a terrific job of engaging with young people of all ages, in our churches, schools and the wider community. As with many ministers, much of his best work is hidden away from public gaze. I know that he has touched the lives of many with Gospel hope, and I am thankful for that. He goes to be Youth, Children and Families Advisor for this Diocese. Please hold him, and the family, in your prayers at this time. How shall we continue and grow what Matt has been leading? I hope we will recruit a new person, but their role will be necessarily different from the one Matt was recruited to. What should it look like?

I suspect that many churchgoers have a secret suspicion that their faith is irrelevant in a modern world; that they have nothing to say or offer. That is why their faith has become private and internalised and its expression must be preserved at all costs. Instead, we should have confidence to own our faith in the God who calls and sends, and seek to apply it in relevant ways. However, becoming outward looking can seem like an enormous task; one

too big to tackle. We shouldn't be discouraged. Our Church celebrations and commemorations in Autumn only have meaning if we are able to look beyond them to the story of Christmas, of God getting off his throne and mucking in with our world in all its faded glory. That's the beginning of the salvation story. God entrusted his Church to continue with what he had started; to put rich meaning into the events of life by getting our hands dirty a little. When we do that we church-safe Christians may find that we are indeed standing on Holy ground, wherever God may call us to be.

"Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:19

Best wishes

Jeremy

Thank you to Andy Colebrooke

In 2019, when the PCC was considering whether there was any longer a need for a parish magazine in an era of social media, blogging and the Internet, it was felt that there was still an opening for a more permanent, physical record of proceedings and a diary of forthcoming events. The Rev'd Canon John Sibson, who had edited the Parish News for some 14 years, felt that the time was right to make way for a fresh approach, and the Reverend Canon David Tomlinson, then the Rector, persuaded recently-retired Andy Colebrooke to take up the post. With Andy, and with the help of the Diocesan Print Unit in Chelmsford, came a thoroughly professional, well produced and well illustrated monthly magazine. In his first edition, he expressed the hope that the new look Parish News would "encourage even more interest in this vibrant Christian community in the heart of Saffron Walden."

In his last edition (August-September) of Parish News, Andy described the 5 years of his tenure of the Editor's chair as "happy". Given that this period included not only a lengthy "interregnum, without a rector" and the unprecedented closure of churches on account of the pandemic, this is testament to his invariably sunny disposition and ability to make the most of life's opportunities. Together with Hazel, he has established a periodical which has given information and pleasure in equal measure, and we are all very grateful for his energy, enthusiasm and creativity.

John Pickthorn

Hamish Walker 1934—2024

As Hamish was fond of saying, he was “made in Hong Kong”, where his father was a manager in the Chartered Bank and his mother a nurse in the colony’s main hospital. Proud Scots, they decided their baby should be born in Scotland. In 1934, travel from the Far East was normally made by sea, but when, after 6 weeks, Hamish’s pregnant mother reached Southampton, she received a cable saying that her husband was dangerously ill. In those days, aeroplanes could not fly at night and it took ten days to reach Singapore (about ten hours nowadays - how things have changed!). Hong Kong did not have an airfield so the last bit of the journey had to be made by sea which took a further week. And she arrived two days too late.

Having arranged the funeral and sorted out matters in Hong Kong, Hamish’s mother took another six weeks sea voyage back to the UK, and Hamish was duly born in his father’s family home in Glasgow in time for Hogmanay!

Although Hamish therefore never knew his father, there were a number of similarities between them. Hamish was also a bank manager, took part extensively in amateur theatricals and was described as being “an enthusiastic organiser”. Hamish’s father was also a fine golfer with a handicap of 3; what might not Hamish have accomplished had he taken up the game?

Hamish grew up in Surrey, where his mother moved to be near her sister. He went to school at a prep school near Chertsey, followed by Charterhouse. After National Service in the RAF, he applied to become an announcer for BBC Radio and no one who heard him reading the lesson in church could be surprised to learn that he passed the initial audition. The BBC were not recruiting for 6 months, however, and he was told to find something to do in the interim. He took a job at the Bank of England and was enjoying life so much that he decided to stay, remaining there for almost 40 years. This included two years where he was lucky enough to be seconded to the Bahamas, setting up a new Central Bank in Nassau, a high-point of his career.

A friend who was a member of the Bank’s Operatic Society took Hamish along to a play-reading one evening and he spotted a girl with dark hair in a bun who was one of the Stage Managers for the Society. Three years later he married her. Fortunate in so many things, Hamish was especially blessed in his marriage of more than 50 years with Susan. They complemented each other in many ways (Susan could cook and Hamish could spell - as friends of Susan would joke). They set up home in East Sheen and, finding themselves unable to have children, they were lucky enough (that word again!) to be chosen to adopt six-week-old twins, James and Joanna. In 1966 the family moved to Little

Walden, so that the children, like their parents, should grow up in the countryside.

Employees of the Bank of England were encouraged to contribute their talents to their local communities. In Little Walden, he audited the accounts of the local WI, the church and the Village Hall, later becoming its Treasurer and subsequently its Chairman. For six years, he used his booming voice to good effect as the Saffron Walden Town Crier, following a public audition in the Market Square.

Hamish and Susan continued their connection with the stage, joining the Saffron Walden Society which Hamish served as Treasurer for 6 years, Chairman for a similar period and finally as the Society's President, a post from which he retired in 2007. He also directed six of the Society's shows, appearing almost every year on stage as a principal or in the chorus.

Not content with performing, Hamish became a Regional Representative for the National Operatic and Dramatic Association, the umbrella organisation for Amateur Societies in the UK, which involved him in travelling around East Anglia, from the Thames to the Humber, encouraging Societies and writing reviews of their shows. He also served as Chairman of the National Committee of those Regional Representatives, and, more briefly, as Advertising Manager for NODA news.

Of equal importance was his contribution to St Mary's. He served as Secretary of the Parochial Church Council for 8 years, he helped Gordon Smith set up the Music Association, he sang in the choir, he was Editor of the Parish Magazine for 6 years, he was a volunteer in the Parish Office for about 10 years, he acted as Verger at funerals for 15 years and as sub-deacon at the 8 o'clock (BCP) service for more than 30 years. He revised and edited the History of St Mary's Church produced in the year 2000 and acted as chief guide for visitors to the church for twenty years. Naturally, he was frequently called on for readings at carol services and other events.

When he was selected to serve in the Bahamas, one of his friends said, "If you fell off the Eiffel Tower you would land on your feet!". Hamish has another explanation, however. He well remembers his mother telling him on more than one occasion: "When you were born, I plonked you onto God and said "Father, you have given me this baby. I'll feed him, but it's up to you to look after him!" After hearing Hamish's story, I think we can all agree that, as they say in the Bahamas, "Lord, you done good, man!".

Taken from the Eulogy given by Tony Summers on 11th July 2024 in St Mary's Church, by kind permission of Hamish's family

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Recent Gifts to St Mary's



I have been asked to write something about some recent gifts that I have made to St Mary's this year. They comprise a silver Chalice and Paten, and a Ciborium which can hold about 50 wafers. See the above photos. They were gifts to my father the Rev'd Tom Hugall from his mother and newly married wife on the occasion of their marriage, before they left England in 1947 to serve in a parish in Cape Town in South Africa. (My parents met and got married when they were both serving in the RAF in Berlin just after the end of the war where my father was a Padre and my mother a morse code operator.)

The Chalice and Ciborium were used regularly by my father in his 14 year ministry in Cape Town until his untimely death at the age of 47 in 1961 from MND. They have been kept ever since in case one of the family might decide to take holy orders, but this is now unlikely. It is lovely to see them being used again after 60+ years, in services here in St Mary's, in particular the Sunday 8am and the Wednesday 9.30am where they are I am told 'just the right size'. They were newly made in solid silver by church metalworkers in London and both have a fairly modern look with a light beaten finish. I am also pleased that Debden Church has found a home for the small brass lectern.

By Martin Hugall, who also took the photographs

Radwinter Road Cemetery, Saffron Walden, CB11 3HU

Are you looking for a final resting place for a loved one? The Cemetery at Radwinter Road is an oasis in the town which is open 24/7 and there is tranquillity within.

Further information on burials is available from The Cemetery Officer at Saffron Walden Town Council, Saffron Walden, CB10 1HR Telephone: 01799 516501 or email enquiries@saffronwalden.gov.uk

Our local Cemetery is 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 also a separate section for War graves which is cared for by The Commonwealth War Graves Commission. A small well-appointed Chapel is available to hire.

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

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Update on the Lighting Project

We are continuing to make progress on the Lighting Project. By the time that you read this, the PCC will have considered the detailed design of the scheme and we will have held a Gift Day in the Church, specifically for the project and held two of our four evenings of prayer to seek God's blessing upon our endeavours. We'll update further in November's Parish News.

How you can help

If you missed the Gift Day, but would like to contribute financially, you're not too late to benefit from the generous offer we have received, whereby donations will be doubled, up to a limit of the first £25,000 donated. You can do so by a cheque made payable to Saffron Walden Parochial Church Council (these can be left in the Parish Office, addressed to David Birchall) or by paying online:

Account Name: Saffron Walden Parochial Church Council

Account No.: 70787116 Sort Code 20-74-05

User Ref: Lighting Gift Day

Most importantly, please support the project with your prayers. Join us in the North Chapel on Thursday evenings, 3rd and 10th October from 7.30-8.15pm, for a time of prayer together, ending with Compline. All welcome.

Paula Griffiths and Steve Hasler

A Prayer for the Lighting Project

Jesus said "I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John Chapter 8, v 12

God our Father, who spoke at the beginning of creation, saying, "Let there be light", we give you thanks for our church building and for the way it speaks of you. Help us, we pray, as we seek to bring new light to this building. May it be light which speaks of your Light; light which opens the eyes of all who come to worship or to wonder; light which illumines the building and our many activities and reflects your eternal glory.

Give your skill, we pray, to the design team; to all who will work to install the equipment; and give us your wisdom and encouragement in all our discussions, that this work may be completed to your praise and glory: in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

Amen.

Wedding Anniversaries



On 27th June, **Denis and Elizabeth Tindley** celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary

On 6th July, **Andy and Hazel Colebrook** celebrated their Golden wedding anniversary.

On 11th August we had two special visitors to St Mary's, **Lawrence and Lily Frankcom** who were married here in 1962 which was of course 62 years ago. Lily was a local girl and Lawrence was in the RAF and based at Debden. They then left the country for Cyprus and Singapore with Lawrence's overseas postings.

They currently live in Devizes and Lawrence arranged a surprise visit to Saffron Walden for Lily. We gave them a few surprises here too with the blessing, joining **Diana and David Hoy** who were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. We arranged a small reception (see above) for Lawrence and Lily in the Parish Rooms where they had their wedding reception 62 years ago.

Many congratulations from the whole St Mary's 'family'!

Photo by Martin Hugall.



FRIENDS OF THE PARISH CHURCH

The Friends of the Parish Church is a very active group and has been so for over 90 years. We are able to help financially with minor and major projects at St Mary's. They range from the new Advent candle which we have just purchased to a substantial sum to help the proposed Lighting Project.

Almost 40% of our members have active and varied roles in the Church. We have a bookstand with an assortment of items on sale and next to that a dedicated noticeboard which will keep you up to date on our many activities. We are also on the Church website under "Groups" so do take a look.

If you would like to learn more, pick up a leaflet from the bookstand which also includes an application form to **join us**. Just hand it to any of the Friends Council members or pop in the Parish Office letterbox. If you feel that you would like to leave us a legacy there are forms available on the bookstand for this too.

Chairman: Denis Tindley, Secretary: Pamela Mugliston, Treasurer: Sandra Marsh

MESSAGE TO OUR FRIENDS We do hope that lots of you were able to attend the AGM this year, and bring with you all of your ideas for the coming year. Please remember that you don't have to wait until September each year to put forward any ideas or thoughts that you may have. Please speak to a Council Member at any time. We plan to get a group photograph on the noticeboard soon, so it will be clear who we all are. Watch out for that and other news items. If you are not already a Friend, please consider enrolling.

FUND RAISER: We are still looking for ideas for an Autumn Fund Raiser, any ideas? Would you like to be involved in an event? Could you help at an event? Please let Pamela know so that we can get something started, maybe even something that could be turned into an annual event.
pjmteddybear@btinternet.com

THE FRIENDS CATHEDRAL TRIPS A review of our visit to St Albans Cathedral on 30th August is on the website and also on the noticeboard. May I encourage all Friends to look at the website regularly—it's easy to find on the St Mary's Church website, under Groups, and then The Friends. Our next trip will be in the Spring (once the weather is slightly better!), and full details will be available here and on the Noticeboard. If you have photographs of any of the previous trips that you would like to share, please pass them to Pamela. We circulate the albums at our events.

The Friends' Visit to St Albans Cathedral

The Friends enjoyed a fabulous visit to the Cathedral at St Albans and although many of us had been before, just to look around, we learnt so much from our really well informed guides



Much of the current layout and proportions of the structure dates from the first Norman Abbot, Paul of Caen (1077-1093). The tower is the only 11th century great crossing tower still standing in England. The original ringing chamber had 5 bells, none of which have survived. Currently there are 23 bells housed in the Tower.

The Great Rose window in the North Transept is a more modern highlight gifted in 1988-89 by the local firm Laporte to celebrate their anniversary, replacing the original clear glass. Too many other beautiful features to mention. We then had a lunch at The Waterside Inn in Ware from where we boarded a boat for a 2 hour commented trip along the river Lee in the sunshine.

We will be planning another Cathedral visit in the Spring.

Report by Pamela Mugliston; photographs by Martin Hugall



The Calendar

This calendar is provisional. See The Grapevine or the church website for the latest information.

St Mary's, Saffron Walden

One service in church each Sunday is streamed on YouTube [Y]: details on the church website. Coffee is served after the Sunday 10:30 services

Wednesday 2 October

11.30am Autumn Coffee Concert: Karin Fischer-Buder
Soprano

Thursday 3 October

10.00am Silent Prayer in the North Chapel
7.30pm Prayers for Lighting Project

Sunday 6 October

8.00am BCP Holy Communion
9.15am Wiggle Church
10.30am Holy Communion [Y]
6.30pm H2H - Youth-led service for all in Parish Rooms



Wednesday 9 October

11.30am Autumn Coffee Concert: SWCHS Students

Thursday 10 October

7.30pm Prayers for Lighting Project

Sunday 13 October

8.00am BCP Holy Communion
10.30am Second Sunday Holy Communion [Y]
6.30pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday 16 October

11.30am Autumn Coffee Concert: Thomas Hawkes *Organ*

Sunday 20 October

8.00am BCP Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion [Y]
6.30pm Living Stones service at St Mary's, Saffron Walden

Wednesday 23 October

11.30am Autumn Coffee Concert: Elliot Randall *Organ*

Thursday 24 October

7.30pm Licensing of Rev'd Lynda Sebbage at St Mary the Virgin and All Saints, Debden

Sunday 27 October - *Clocks go back*

8.00am BCP Holy Communion [Y]

10.30am Family Service

6.30pm Taizé service

Regular weekday services at St Mary's

Tuesdays

5.00pm Evening Prayer by Zoom, see weekly bulletin for login details

Wednesdays

8.00am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Communion (with Prayers for Wholeness and Healing on the 1st Wednesday of the month)

St James', Sewards End

Sunday 6 October

10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 20 October

10.30am Harvest Festival



St John's, Little Walden

Sunday 13 October

10.30am Family Service

Sunday 27 October—*Clocks go back*

10.30am Holy Communion



YOUin**thePEW**

interviewed by Chris Bishop

Andy Colebrooke

Born in St Albans, Andy went to Imperial College, London (BSc, PhD) hoping for a career in science, but after 5 years on a research reactor in the east end of London (now the site of the 2012 Olympic Stadium), he realised it wouldn't be his long-term occupation. He had enjoyed a bit of teaching, so with Hazel's consent he became a student again, to gain a teaching qualification. In 12 years of



teaching maths, in two quite tough comprehensive schools, Andy found teaching was a far more dangerous occupation than nuclear reactor science!

Hazel and Andy had met when students in London and married in 1974 to settle in Bush Hill Park, north London, where their two boys Simon and Daniel were born. After a few years they took what seemed at the time a huge risk and moved out to the village of Stebbing, near Great Dunmow. There their daughter Joanna was born, at the start of 15 very happy years, learning to appreciate the value of a small community. Hazel encouraged Andy to attend events at Stebbing Church resulting in his faith coming alive in a loving fellowship with inspirational teaching. Andy's faith grew stronger, so with Hazel and others they led a Pathfinders' youth group and weekends away. Encouraged to explore ordination, and again with Hazel's backing, Andy left work to train for the ministry at Ridley Hall in Cambridge. Ordination followed in 1994 with a curacy in Colchester, then a first incumbency in Manningtree on the River Stour, before crossing the diocese to live in Great Chishill as rector of seven villages – 'a little bit of heaven next to the M11' – and perhaps the happiest period of the couple's life since leaving Stebbing. A lot happened on a personal level during those ministry years – both sets of parents died, and all three children were married.

On retirement in 2016, they came to live in the town because it is well situated to be near the three children and their growing families (7 marvellous grandchildren). Although they miss village life the benefits of Saffron Walden are many – Saffron Hall and Saffron Screen; library and shops in walking distance; of course, St Mary's and its surrounding churches; new friends to get to know and

much more. When he can Andy attends the walk of witness on Good Friday which is always a moving event. A day that sticks in his memory is Remembrance Day 2020 when he led the 11am online service from a locked St Mary's with only 5 or 6 others, including the Commanding Officer from Carver Barracks. Strange times.

As for everyone, life has its triumphs and its failures. Since becoming a Christian Andy has come to see that God works through all of it, even the bad can be an opportunity to learn or empathise. So, his coat of arms would say, 'Nothing is Wasted'



"It's either an appeal to youth culture or we can't afford to service the boiler for the Winter season"

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From the Registers

Baptisms

14th July Charles Vero Johnson
4th August Olivia Rose Burbridge
18th August Gracie Gregory
25th August Delilah Amelia Wilson

Weddings

20th July Frederick Hayes and Isabel Scruby
27th July Benjamin Cassels and Kirsten Sills
3rd August Michael Newson and Donna Hagget
17th August Andrew King and Joanna Clark

Funerals

8th July Frank Gypps
12th July Hamish Walker
29th July Charles Saich
14th August Beryl Selves



...I take it our local supermarket has a rather good offer on tinned peas at the moment!

St Mary's Music News

The summer break ended convivially with lunch kindly hosted by Noel and Judith Starr. This followed a hastily and briefly (20 minutes) rehearsed service on 1 September, and reminded us how much fun as well as musical skills we all gain from belonging to the choir.



By the time this magazine is published, the SMMA Festal Evensong will have taken place on 8 September, and the Junior Choir with the children in Joyful Noise will have led the singing in the Harvest Family Service on 22 September. Meanwhile we shall have supported an evening recital of poetry, opera and lieder on the theme of "Love and Loss", with poetry read by Edward Gildea and songs performed by Iestyn Edwards.

SWCHS students are starring in 2 of the autumn series of Wednesday morning coffee concerts on 25 September and 10 October. Choir soprano Karin Fischer-Buder is singing on 2 October, and the season finishes with 2 organ concerts: Thomas Hawkes on 16 October and former Michael Swindlehurst Organ Scholar Elliot Randall on 23 October. Refreshments are available from 10.45 am before the 40 minute concerts start at 11.30.

Once again the SMMA is delighted to be creating an outreach event for primary school children on 4 October. These are always tremendous fun, albeit exhausting for the energetic souls who organise and run them. A pantomime theme is rumoured. Oh no it isn't!

In addition to regularly supporting worship in St Mary's, the choir aims to sing Choral Evensong in a cathedral every year. This tradition had to be paused during Covid, but last year there was a very successful and enjoyable trip to Birmingham, hosted by Jenny and David Tomlinson. This year we shall be going to Norwich Cathedral on Saturday 19 October. There will be a coach to Norwich and supporters will be very welcome.

The next Choral Evensong in St Mary's will be at 6.30pm on Sunday 13 October.

So now it's back to choir practice not only for regular Sunday worship, Festal Evensong, and Norwich, but also planning ahead with rehearsals for Remembrance Day and even the Advent Carol Service. A busy season awaits.

Ottile Lefever

Photographs by Hannah Razzell

Gelio's Anthology of

Obscure Proverbs

This month, I have decided to share with you a couple of proverbs on the subject of GENEROSITY.

From Denmark, we have 'A willing helper does not wait to be called', and then there is a Jewish proverb which says 'The man who gives little with a smile gives more than the man who gives much with a frown'.



A Prayer for October

Provided by the Prayer Team

Dear Lord,

As a new term is now underway, we remember:
all those entering a new phase of life -
at work or school, at college or university,
and also in nurseries or playgroups.

Be with those who learn and study,
and with those who teach and care;
go before them into every new situation
and may they feel your loving presence surrounding them
both in times of joy and pleasure, and in times of anxiety.

And whatever the future brings, may they see your hand at work in their lives.
All this we ask in the name of Jesus,
our teacher and friend.

Amen



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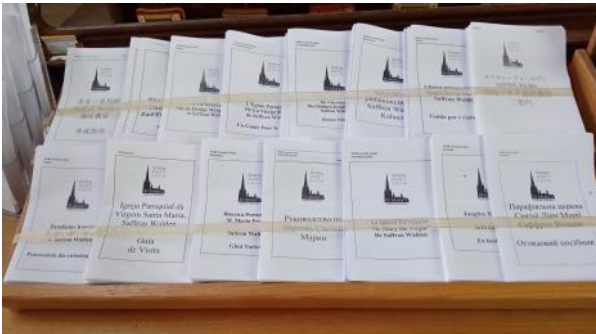
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Walk-around guides



Most visitors to St Mary's will have noticed the helpful guides near to the entrance to the nave at the west end of the church, and near to the visitor's book. In addition to the English guide, there are versions available in Czech, Chinese, Dutch, French,

German, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swedish and Ukrainian. If you are aware of any other translations that might help our visitors to appreciate St Mary's, please let us know.

Particular thanks to Pamela Mugliston, who has traced visitors from 65 different countries through the Visitor's Book in the last two years.

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Archive Group

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

Compiled by our Archivist, the Rev'd Canon Chris Bishop

From Parish News, October 1944

We hear a great deal about the duty of the Church to the returning demobilised troops. In this connection one need hardly say we shall welcome them cordially at our services.

I received lately a very interesting letter from the Superintendent of our Boy's Sunday School, Mr Albert Fitch, now serving with the forces in Italy. He describes his experiences in a rest camp by the sea-side a few miles from a fairly large seaport. Among the amenities there were bathing, swimming, water polo, a cinema, a hippodrome, a canteen, facilities for billiards, table tennis and listening to the wireless and last but not least a Camp Church with a very nice padre who supplied three services on Sundays and a Bible Class on Sundays. It is very gratifying to know that so much thought has been directed to the temporal and spiritual life of the men.

I Hughes. September 18th 1944

Hire of Parish Rooms

When looking for a function room for a private party, or as a meeting place for a group or organisation, have you ever considered hiring the Parish Rooms? These are available on an hourly basis, at a very competitive rate. The Main Hall can accommodate up to about 100 people and we have kitchen facilities as well as tables and chairs, cutlery and crockery. There is also the Small Hall available and the Lower Room.

For more information, please contact the Parish Office 01799 506024, or email office@stmaryssaffronwalden.org Also on website at www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/parishrooms

What's in a name? (2)

This month I thought we might explore how some of the roads on the new estate near Tesco's got their names. Once again, I cannot explore them all and this time I have chosen Leverett Way, Campling Street, Eddystone Avenue and Wallace Road..

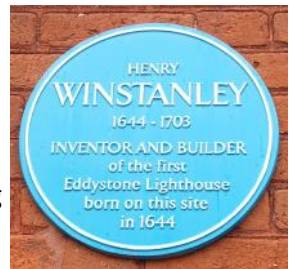
Leverett Way is named after the Leverett family who were important in the town for several hundred years. They were successful tradesmen in the eighteenth century with businesses including bakery, grocery, ironmongery and, more unusually, peruke making and malting. Many described themselves as gentlemen, serving as aldermen and mayors of Saffron Walden. When the rood screen was erected in St Mary's church, one of the churchwardens was a member of the Leverett family. If you look carefully, among the various carvings you will find a Leverett. No, not one of the family, but a young hare.



Campling Street is named after William Campling who was High or Chief Constable of Saffron Walden in 1849 in the days before there was a county police force. William was unfortunate enough to be shot on his own doorstep in Bridge Street. He survived a few days but died of his wounds. Although a young man was charged with the crime, he was found 'Not Guilty' and the case still remains unsolved.

There is a plaque commemorating William Campling on the bridge over the Slade near the Eight Bells giving details of the crime.

Eddystone Avenue is called after a place, not a person. I am sure you will have heard of the Eddystone Lighthouse, but what has that got to do with Saffron Walden? Well, the very first Eddystone Lighthouse was built by a Walden man, Henry Winstanley. Winstanley was born in Museum Street, where there is a blue plaque commemorating him, and spent his early career working for Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk, at Audley End where he was responsible for a set of twenty-four engravings of the house. After being shipwrecked on the Eddystone Rocks, Winstanley designed and built the lighthouse but while he was working on the rocks in 1703 a terrible storm blew up which destroyed the lighthouse and killed Winstanley.



And finally, Wallace Road. Wallace Road is probably named after

Saffron Walden's own lion, Wallace, who now lives in Saffron Walden Museum. Wallace was the first African lion to be born in Britain. He became part of Wombwell's travelling menagerie and, when he died, he was stuffed and given to the museum. It is said that he may have been the inspiration for the poem 'Albert and the Lion'. You can still visit Wallace in Saffron Walden Museum.



Hilary Walker

Pictures by Sarah Pickthorn

Have you ever thought about...?

Most of us who come to worship in St Mary's appreciate the splendour of the church and its almost cathedral like status without stopping to think what makes it such a magnificent highlight of the town. We sometimes remember to say 'thank you' to our predecessors who built and cared for the church, and consider how remarkably prosperous the town must have been to create so imposing an edifice. Visitors, tourists and pilgrims sometimes show their appreciation by making a small financial donation, grateful, perhaps, that, unlike so many churches here and on the continent, they have not been charged a fixed 'admission price'.

We, who come to worship more or less regularly, almost certainly contribute to the church's finances in other ways. However, the purpose of this article is not to suggest that you might like to give more money, but to hope that you might like to devote a bit of time to helping where help is needed.

Over the course of the next few months, I hope to set out various ways which rely on volunteers to step forward, and help ensure that succeeding generations can come to thank us for preserving this building and its customs. Some of these are obvious, such as volunteering to join the choir or to become a bell-ringer. Others are less so, and it may be that you have always assumed that the flower arranging, sewing or cleaning the brass just happens. It takes a lot of people to keep the church doing all of the things that often get taken for granted.

Take a look at the Who's Who leaflet at the back of the church, and to see the extensive list of Parish Organisations and Coordinators that have been set up to ensure that our church remains a prominent feature in Saffron Walden.

John Pickthorn

DTI gathering 2024

Dreaming the Impossible (DTI) is a youth movement for young people aged 12-18 from churches and youth organisations everywhere. DTI is about inspiring and equipping young people to love God, love others and change the world. Over the summer a group of our young people and leaders from our After-shock and the Community Church in Saffron Walden attended the 'Dreaming the Impossible' Summer Youth Festival held on the Staffordshire Showground from 27th July to 1st August 2024, along with 4,000 other young people. During this period, they camped out, worshiped together, heard some great teaching from the Bible and spent time in God's presence across 5 nights! It proved a brilliant chance for them to get to know each other better, and it was great to see the youth from the two groups come and grow together with this opportunity to develop and strengthen their faith in God.

Impressively, the group raised over £2,000 towards the cost of this trip from their sponsored ride on 13th July on turbo trainers, covering a distance of 130 miles.

In addition to the collage on the next page, more photos can be found on the news section of the website and on display at the back of the church.

Please note:

1. The opinions expressed in the articles in this magazine are those of the authors.
2. The Parish News cannot accept responsibility for the goods and services advertised in this magazine . Advertisements are accepted in good faith.
3. Illustrations and photographs are the property of the copyright holders and should not be reused without permission.
4. This magazine is also available in full colour on the St Mary's Church website. See www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/parishnews
5. The Editor reserves the right to edit or exclude any article submitted. Please be aware when submitting articles that 400 words fit comfortably onto a page and any articles over 800 words may need to be edited to ensure readability.





*St Mary's Church
Saffron Walden
Christmas Fair*

Saturday 30 November 2024

10am – 1pm

Stalls to include:

Refreshments, cakes

Mulled wine and mince pies

Christmas gifts

Handicrafts and children's stalls

Tombola and Grand Draw

Visits to Bell Tower

Christmas music

Free admission, wheelchair access