

All Saints Magazine



July 2015

Free

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

I have a picture on my Pinterest board which says "Church is not a museum for Good People but it is a hospital for the broken"

Being incomplete or broken or wounded is not something most of us would want to admit to. We like the world to see us at our best and we often pretend all is well, even if it isn't, but God is a God of our real lives, not the shiny polished version we may like to present. God understands that we are tired or frustrated; that we carry hurts with us; that sometimes we cannot let go of our wounds. He understands our fears, our pains and our jealousies. He cries with us when we cry and he knows that we are only human and he forgives that.

We do all fail many many times. I know that there are times when I have not done what I should or I have responded with anger or sharp words. I know too that there are times when I cannot be bothered and really I should be.

God however is greater than anything good or bad that I can do or not do. God can cope with it all and he gets it. He may sometimes show us that there is a better way but he is always gracious with it. He gently admonishes rather than angrily shouts. He nudges us onwards and asks us to be gracious with those around us too.

God asks us to love those around us and love makes us kind in how we ask or what we say to each other. When we see something that we think needs addressing, think first, what is the right thing to do or say here? What would God say here? Can saying something change this situation or not.

Sometimes it is not our place to say something and sometimes if we do so we may cause more harm than good.

We are all broken in some way and we all need God's help and his grace. Let us be forgiving and gracious in the name of God when and wherever we can

God Bless.

Annette

Deanery Awayday

Last month representatives from churches across the Deanery of Eltham and Mottingham met for a day of worship, reflection, networking and activity planning. The day was the brainchild of Fr Brett Ward, Area Dean, and our own Annette, who is Assistant Area Dean.

We were fortunate enough to meet in the Old School Room at the Greenwich Naval College, and benefit from an abundance of snacks and coffee provided by our thoughtful Deans.

We started the day with some introductions (not all of us were Deanery Synod members) and sharing thoughts on what we do well in our own parishes, where we wish we could do more, and how we might perhaps share events and activities across the Deanery. The recent Ascension Day Service at St Saviour's and the Corpus Christi Mass at Holy Trinity are examples of successful collective worship.

We shared our Mission Action Plans and ended the business part of the morning with a really interesting and inspiring presentation on the newly-formed Greenwich Credit Union - you might see some posters for this ethical co-operative savings and lending project around the church.

Before lunch we were privileged to take Holy Communion together in the Chapel of the College.

We ended the day with thinking specifically about activities and services for children and young people in the Deanery, although the important point that we should also be thinking about our elder congregation members was made more than once during the day.

There will be many outcomes from this useful and thought-provoking day, I think, but the first concrete one to emerge is a Children and Parents/Carers Deanery Picnic in Avery Hill Park, Saturday 11th July, 2-4 pm. Liz Oglesby, the newly-appointed Vicar of St Luke's Westmount Road, is the Deanery Champion for Children and Young People and we hope to see families from all the churches in the Deanery at this informal event.



Join a Choir

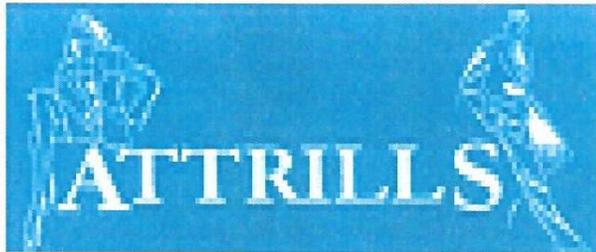
Singing is an aerobic activity: it stimulates circulation and exercises major muscle groups, including the abs.

Regular singing done correctly, can improve mental alertness and posture, clear sinuses and even help the immune system.

Singing with others has been proven to reduce stress levels and create a feeling of wellbeing, through the release of endorphins and a sense of joint achievement.

So to get fit and enjoy yourself, come and join our friendly **All Saints Choir**.

Also as Kate has said in her recruiting campaign, Andrew's cakes are very good too.



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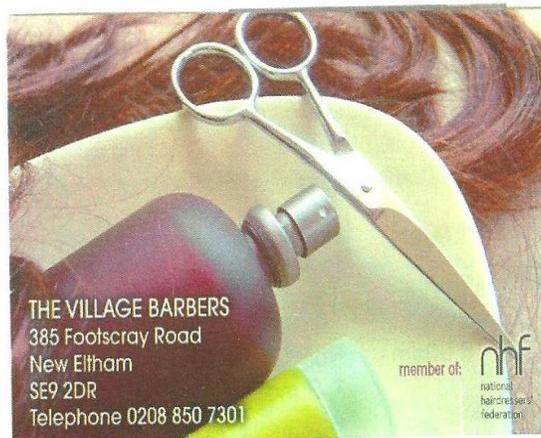
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Stalwarts.

We like to think of the community of All Saints as being a friendly and welcoming church and that is in no small way due to the inclusive nature of the congregation and the services.

In recent times, sadly the congregation has lost a number of its stalwarts, and those remaining, many of whom already undertake other roles in the church, are struggling to fill the holes they left.

We are thankful that some of our newer/younger members have volunteered to take some of the roles, to maintain the inclusivity of our services. However next time you think, "he/she is saying the prayers again" or " why is he/she doing both readings", or "am sure they used to have two acolytes **and** a crucifer in the processions", please also think, "I could be doing that", for there are no special qualifications required, other than the desire to serve God. Any expressions of interest to help would be gratefully received by the Vicar or Churchwardens.



The Village Barbers

Ladies & Gents Hairdressing

All aspects of Ladies
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Traditional Gents Hairdressing

My Life Of Travels

I was born in January 1947 in a nursing home in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. My father was an officer in the Royal Navy And my mother was the daughter of a fruit farmer in Lincolnshire.

When I was eighteen months old my father was posted to Japan, having studied an A1 interpreter's degree in London. I have a sister, who was born in Japan in August 1949.

I went to primary school in Alverstoke, Gosport, Hampshire, but my education was interrupted by contracting benign meningitis. After a period of hospitalisation I recovered.

When I was 10 we moved to Weymouth and I attended a local Convent School. However, after about a year I was sent as a boarder to a preparatory school in Wisborough Green, West Sussex.

In December 1959 my father was asked to go to Washington, DC regarding the Polaris submarine programme and I celebrated my thirteenth birthday on the RMS Saxonica in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

In America I attended Longfellow School for Boys in Bethesda, Maryland

Prior to my trip to the United States I had an interview at Millfield School, Somerset and in January 1962 my mother and I flew home and stayed in the Basil Street Hotel behind Harrods. She bought the necessary public school shopping list in Harrods and spent her time sewing on name tags. I went to Millfield from 1962 to 1965 and from 1965 to 1967 I went to a technical college in Portsmouth, where apart from my education, I acted in 'Oh What A Lovely War'.

In 1966 my father was posted to Singapore and when I finished college I flew there and spent a year with my parents living in a residence in the Royal Naval Wireless Station, Kranji. I acted in 'When We Are Married' on the base with some of the staff.

We came home and I joined the local branch of Lloyds Bank in Gosport, Hampshire. In my relaxing periods I joined a local AMDRAM group called the Thorngate Theatre Players and we entered various one-act play competitions and in one mystery play about Noah and the building of the Ark for the Hampshire Drama Festival I played the part of God.

I met Beryl at the theatre club and we became engaged in 1969. My father was asked to return to the States and I spent a holiday in Florida from where I sent Beryl endless postcards. I moved up to London in 1970 to work in International Banking and lived with my future parents-in-law in Welling.

We married on the 31st July 1971 at St. Mary's Church, Alverstoke and after our honeymoon we came to London to live with Beryl's parents for a year before we bought our first house.

Beryl taught at Mottingham School for Girls and one of my various bank employments was the Bank of Argentina, where I worked at the outbreak of the Falklands War. After my banking career ended Beryl asked me to support a pupil with Duchene's Muscular

Dystrophy at the old Crown Woods School. I enjoyed it for four years and felt I was giving something back,

We have enjoyed many lovely holidays at home and abroad. Especially to remember are cruises around the Baltic Sea, the Canary Islands and the Mediterranean. We thoroughly enjoyed our cruise across the Atlantic and up the Eastern seaboard of America from Florida up to Bar Harbour in Maine. We also spent a memorable Christmas in Alameda, San Francisco with Gregory's girlfriend's family. More recently we went on a river cruise up the Rhine and going through the huge locks was an incredible experience as was visiting the Rhine Falls at Schaffhausen, which were like a mini Niagara.

We are thankful for the memory of lovely holidays. The world can be a wonderful place.

Recently we have enjoyed many drives through the English countryside and appreciate there is much of great beauty on our own doorstep.

Simon Garson

Diary Dates for July 2015

Wednesday 1st Trinity Church	7.30 pm	Deanery Synod BBQ at Holy
Thursday 2nd	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 4th	10.00 -12.00	Parish Office
Sunday 5th	10.00 am 12.00 am	Holy Communion Baptism Danielle Tinnian
Wednesday 8th	10.30 - 12.00	Fair Trade Café
Thursday 9th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 11th	5.00 - 6.30 pm	Youth Club in Church Hall
Sunday 12th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 16th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 18th	2.00 pm	Holy Baptism of Erin Odusola
Sunday 19th	9.30 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion (Quiet) Family Communion
Wednesday 22nd	10.30 -12.00	Fair Trade Café
Thursday 23rd	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 26th	10.00 am 12.00 pm 12.30 pm	Holy Communion Baptism of Cody Hines Baptism of Lily Olive Ann
Walker		
Thursday 30th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Friday 31st Fraser Sage	2.30 pm	Wedding Daniel & Claire
Saturday 1st August Sheenan	2.00 pm	Wedding Gary & Samantha
Sunday 2nd August	10.00 am 12.00 pm	Holy Communion with Father John Francis Friendship Baptism Amelia Goldsmith

Please check the weekly news sheet for any changes.

Parish Pump

100 Club

The 100 Club in May was won by Issabella Broughton (Cynthia's granddaughter, Linda's daughter).

Baptisms

13th June, Hudson James Asaf

28th June, Kaycee Maree Cox

Funerals

8th June, Kenneth Pilbeam

Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Notes from the PCC

Due to ongoing consultation with hall users regarding the proposed upgrade to the hall toilets, to include a designated disabled toilet and a specific storage area, the works proposed for August are now likely to be postponed to December.

Restoration work to the brickwork above the South Aisle window nearest the Lady Chapel has been completed and the area is once again safe.

Future Events

Saturday 5th September—Woolwich area conference 9.30 to 4pm.

Saturday 26th September—All Saints Michaelmas Fair.



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The Gardeners Hymn

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.
But what we never mention, though gardeners know it's true,
Is when He made the goodies, He made the baddies too.

All things spray and swatable, disasters great and small,
All things paraquatable, The Lord God made them all.
The greenfly on the roses, the maggots in the peas,
Manure that fills our noses, He gave us all of these.

The fungus on the goose-gogs, the club root on the greens,
The slugs that eat the lettuce and chew the aubergines.
The drought that kills the fuchsia, the frost that nips the buds,
The rain that drowns the seedlings, the blight that hits the spuds.

The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons in the green stuff, the sparrows and the seeds.
The fly that gets the carrots, the wasp that eats the plums,
How black the gardeners outlook, though green may be his thumb.

But still we gardeners labour, midst vegetables and flowers,
And pray what hits our neighbours, will somehow bypass ours!



All things bright and beautiful.....

Please do not sing this version in Church

Sky Gardens

I have just had a lovely visit to the Sky Gardens, near Fenchurch Street Station. You have to book but it costs nothing. The lift takes you up 33 floors, (you don't know you are moving) and you come out onto an area of glass, seating and tables and plants. You have a wonderful view of London from an area of glass and a partly open area. The plants are mainly shrubs but beautiful. You walk up about 30 stairs to the top, with plants to your right all the way up. At the top there is a different view of London. You can have a seat up there. Then it's back down the other side with plenty more plants and seating.

After a very pleasant lunch, we then proceeded to the Shard. Again you go up in a lift, 33 floors and then into another lift up a further 33 floors and to get to the top a few more floors, (70 in all).

What a view of London! You can see for miles as we had a lovely sunny and clear day. You can wander round and round picking out places of interest. Cars look like dinky toys. Naturally when you get to ground level there is the usual shop. What a wonderful day but both well worth a visit.

Sheila Cooper

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Smile Lines

Complaints from Holidays (these are real from Thompson Holidays).

On my Holiday to Goa in India, I was disgusted to find that almost every restaurant served curry. I don't like spicy food.

They should not allow topless sunbathing on the beach. It was very distracting for my husband who just wanted to relax.

We went on holiday to Spain and had a problem with the taxi drivers as they were all Spanish.

The beach was too sandy. We had to clean everything when we returned to our room.

We found the sand was not like the sand in the brochure. Your brochure shows the sand as white but it was more yellow.

We booked an excursion to a waterpark but no one told us we had to bring our swim suits and towels. We assumed they would be included in the price.

It took us nine hours to fly home from Jamaica to England. It only took the Americans three hours to get home. This seems unfair.

More next month

No Picnic!

I like the story of a small boy who had been looking forward to his Sunday School picnic for a long time. When the great day arrived, it was dull and wet. The outing was not a success. However, when he got back home and was ready for bed, he was determined to find something to be thankful for. In his prayers he said: "O God, thank you for giving me a chance to wear my new mackintosh."

Be not faithless, but believing.

Sweet Moments

How wonderful is nature
As she sets for us the scene
Of lakes and woods and waterfalls,
Rolling hills and glorious greens.

The scent of summer flowers,
Showers shining in the sun
Is balm upon the spirit
And beauty newly spun.

How wonderful a crashing sea
To pound upon the shore
The roller-coaster wanton waves
Where seagulls screech and soar.

How wonderful these images
Friends forever new
Take time out, reflect, rejoice,
Our lovely world welcomes you.

Dorothy McGregor The Friendship Book 2014

When John Whittier was growing up in Massachusetts in the early nineteenth century, the poor health that had prevented him from earning his living as a farmer didn't stop him doing what he could to make his mark on the world. As a Quaker and politician, he concentrated all his efforts on working to abolish slavery, despite sometimes suffering not just verbal, but actual physical attack. He also wrote these memorable words:

*No longer forward nor behind
I look in hope and fear;
But grateful, take the good I find
The best of now and here.*

And that's a philosophy to help us all through times both good and bad.

The Friendship Book 2014

From the Archives – we don't have a July 1935 magazine but here are some extracts of the time from Mr Pond's "Our Heritage" book.

As part of the Bishops' call to Evangelism for 1935, the following letter from the Clergy (Frs. A. C. Norledge and H. J. Davis) was to be delivered to every householder in the parish:

"Dear Friends,

This letter is to tell you about our Parish Mission which is to be held from February 9th to Feb. 16th 1936.

We are sending it to you early in order to help you to arrange to keep that fortnight as free as possible because we want you to take part in it.

During the mission special services will be held in the Church and in the open air, when the Gospel of Jesus Christ will be preached and you will be asked to make some answer to His appeal of Love.

Jesus Christ taught us that God, Our Father cares for each one of us. As you are His Sons and Daughters, He cares for each one of you. You may have forgotten Him, perhaps you have not spoken to him as your Father for a long time. Possibly you have given up all Church going.

A mission gives the opportunity of a new start of breaking away from the past and giving yourselves to God.

In a mission Jesus Christ, the good shepherd, carries on His work of seeking for those who have lost their way.

Your Parish Clergy ask you if you will kindly do three things for the Mission.

First pray for it. Ask God to Bless and help all who are working for it. Ask Him to give you, through it, some message of His Love. (Will you please use the Prayer Card sent with this letter, Daily).

Secondly come to it. Make up your mind that you will come to its' services. Never mind if you have not been to Church for a long time; now is the opportunity to make a fresh start.

Thirdly, try and bring others to the Services. If you are already a Church member do all you can to make the mission known and use any opportunity you may have of inviting friends and neighbours to come with you.

If you would like the clergy to call to see you about the mission, or to discuss any difficulties please inform the visitor who calls with this letter. You will be receiving further letters about the mission later on and we earnestly ask you to read them carefully and pray for us in this Work."

There are no entries in the "Church Logbook" for July 1975.

We hope to provide "snippets" from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.



C. J. Reilly



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