

# *September 2023 Magazine*



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**All Saints Episcopal Church, 71 Drymen Road, Bearsden, Glasgow, G61 3QT**

The cover picture: 'Bricks without Straw', Ancient Egyptian Builders. See pp1, 21

*All Saints Scottish Episcopal  
Church*

*Drymen Road Bearsden*



September 2023

Dear All,

## NEW PRIORITIES

In the Old Testament the prophets often call people to get their priorities right, to shift their perspective, and to have a renewed commitment to God.

There couldn't be a better time for us here in this charge to take that message to heart, as we think hard about our mission, our role as a church and our work in the community.

Bishop Kevin and the diocese are asking us all to think about where we are as churches and congregations in an initiative called *Bricks without Straw*. The title comes from the story in Exodus chapters 5 and 6 where Moses and Aaron are asking Pharaoh to let the Israelites go so they can worship God in the wilderness. But Pharaoh refuses and tells the slave drivers to stop giving the "lazy" workers straw to make bricks; instead the slaves must go out and gather their own straw but continue working at the same pace. So they were expected to do the same amount of work without being given the resources.

*Bricks Without Straw* aims to obtain an honest picture of the reality of the charges across the diocese in 2023. This snapshot will consider the Spiritual Reality, the Missional Reality, and the Financial Reality of each charge. The purpose for doing this is to provide some background to the Synod and Diocesan Council in making strategic decisions for the life and mission of charges around our diocese as they allocate resources in the coming years—it will also help to feed into the necessary preparations of the next Diocesan Profile once we reach an episcopal vacancy in the coming years.

The main question is who we are now. Not what we were, or a fantasy of what we might be in the future, but realistically who and where we are now. In many ways it is an encouragement to be hopeful and confident about the future as we journey together.

We are being asked questions so that the right resources can be made available so that we can flourish and make fullest use of our own time, treasure and talents.

As people of God today we are challenged with the same questions that God's people were faced with thousands of years ago, and indeed what Jesus himself asked of his followers when he was living on Earth. Are you ready to make God your first commitment? Where are our priorities? Is God first in our lives?

The world we live in has many people, places and things that can draw our priorities away from God. Our families, our jobs, our bank accounts, even the

sports activities we like can become our number one priorities. They can wedge their way into our commitment to God. I'm not saying these people and activities are not important, but how do they rank in our lives? When we allow anything to come between ourselves and our relationship to God we are challenging our commitment to God. We have made something else in our lives our god.

Where do our priorities lie? Where does our commitment to God stand in our lives? Jesus challenged the disciples on these questions and we are challenged today. Are we committed to following a living God with our time, our talent and our treasure, or does God simply receive a donation? We all have to face the possibility that our priorities are out of line.

Let us take the opportunity to reflect and see what our priorities are. Let us make a commitment to put God first in our lives.

Rev'd David

More information can be found online here:

<https://www.glasgow.anglican.org/resources/bricks-without-straw/> and paper copies are available to read in church.

On p21 David adds a further explanation of the text:

## OUR CHURCH LOGO

We have a new All Saints church logo, which we hope helps to give us an identity and be noticed and recognised wherever it is used.

The logo was produced by Rev David and Mark Peters (from David's former parish of Otford), inspired by our church's distinctive black and white timber-framed Arts and Crafts

design. The simple but striking logo is based on the view of the south east end of the church and bellcote from the outside, with the inclusion of a cross.

It offers us a local symbol of our church in addition to the more general Scottish Episcopal Church logo which appears on the "pub sign" welcome boards and identifies the SEC across the province. Look out for our logo on publications, notices and other materials we produce.



## LITTLE SAINTS FUN BAGS

We are putting together some fun bags for children who come to church so they have something to keep them occupied during services. We already have some colouring pencils and Bible colouring books, word puzzle books, and Bible story books but we are looking for more. We could do with pencils (with erasers at the end), small and simple jigsaw puzzles, small games (perhaps travel type) and anything else that would fit into a bag and be attractive to any children we do have in church. These things need not be brand new but should be in good and usable condition. Please let Rev David have anything or leave it in the Vestry.



In the longer term we would love to be able to return to having some kind of Sunday School activity, but this requires enthusiastic volunteers and preparation! It is something the Vestry are discussing as we are aware of the important need to cater and care for families but if it is something that interests you please speak to Rev David.

## A CELEBRATION OF 30 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD



Members of the congregation surprised Revd David, after the morning service on Sunday July 2nd, with a cake to celebrate the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.



David was ordained priest by Rt. Revd Michael Baughen, Bishop of Chester, on July 4th, 1993, in Chester Cathedral, having been ordained deacon there the previous year.

## WALKING ON WATER

He said, 'Come'. So Peter got out of the boat and started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. Matthew 14:29

A few years ago a friend told me she'd had a clear message that she felt God wanted me to hear: a key part of that message was, "God says the time has come for you to walk on the water." The gospel passage on Sunday, August 13th (Matthew 14.22-33) also appeared during my retreat the week after she gave me the message, when it was given to us by the retreat conductor as something we might like to read imaginatively – in other words, meditating on it and imagining ourselves in the scene somewhere. It led me to write a poem at the end of the retreat about where I felt I was spiritually, and I shared it with the others in the group. I read it on August 13th in church during my sermon, and wanted you to be able to read it yourselves - perhaps it will inspire others.

### Walking on Water

Treading water.

Not drowning, not waving,  
not floating, not falling,  
not sinking, not swimming...

Just treading water.

Going nowhere in particular, but getting life done.

Sometimes it's calm - and I am relaxed, not worried,  
at peace and unhurried.

Sometimes it's rough - the waves carry me to new parts of the same waters,  
and life gets stormy.

But still I go nowhere in particular  
and all there is for me

is being all at sea... Making an occasional splash,  
safe - if wet! - but without direction.

Have you got a life, boy?!

I look to the shore

and I see a figure... he is familiar...

And I wonder if he is fresh from prayer,  
or healing, or teaching, or just being there  
for those who have needed his presence.



And he comes - walking on the waves towards me.  
Not a vision, not a trick of the light, not a ghost,  
but the person I need to see the most -  
Jesus!

"Don't be afraid," he says. And I have no fear.  
"Be brave," he says. And I take courage.  
"Have faith," he says. And I believe.  
And I begin to hope and imagine the impossible...

And he speaks those words that I expect but somehow dread.  
He speaks those words that excite and challenge  
and promise the miraculous.  
I hear his voice...  
Not still or small,  
not in fire or storm,  
but commanding - demanding response:  
"Come to me!"

And so I come -  
walking on the water.

©David Guest

## **SOME MISSION SUPPORT THANKS**

### **From Self Help Africa**

Dear Louise

Thank you so much to you and all of the Mission Support Group at All Saints Episcopal Bearsden for your generous donation of £700. This was received safely at our London office today.

Your donation is timely as we continue to focus on the challenges of hunger and food insecurity in a changing climate. Please do continue to follow our latest updates at [www.selfhelpafrica.org](http://www.selfhelpafrica.org) and on social media (@selfhelpafrica).

With grateful thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely

Louise James



Supporting Christian Medical College, Vellore, South India  
Registered Charity No. 209168

Dear Louise,

Thank you very much for All Saints Episcopal Church Bearsden's very generous donation of £700 to Friends of Vellore UK for the Person-to-Person Scheme. Your donation will help to transform the lives of those who are able to receive the treatment they so desperately need but are unable to afford at Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore. I hope you enjoy reading the patient reports sent out by CMC. On behalf of Friends of Vellore UK, we really do appreciate your ongoing support. Please do pass on our thanks to the Mission Support Group and the church family.

Friends of Vellore's projects are aimed at promoting health and welfare of the poor and marginalised. We want to help CMC to ensure that everyone can receive appropriate medical treatment regardless of their ability to pay. We also seek to help CMC in their efforts to help local communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

This year, in addition to sending £40,000 to the PTP fund, we are funding 6 student scholarships for young people from the Jawadhi Hills. We are also funding the salaries of 11 community health workers. These workers are young people from the hills so the project provides them with training and an income as well as benefitting their local community.

We are delighted to have raised almost £50,000 for our Safer Birth appeal to build a labour ward. In this rural area it is often dangerous to give birth and it can take over 12 hours to reach medical help. The maternal unit will seek to try to address the high maternal and infant mortality rates there.

I was very grateful for the opportunity to visit Vellore in January. I met some of the community health workers in the Jawadhi Hills and saw the land where the proposed maternity unit will be built. We also visited one of the elderly welfare centres we fund which not only benefits the elderly who attend, but also provides employment for local women and educates the community on the importance of caring for the elderly.

We have close links with CMC's Missions Department who are continuing in their efforts to help revive smaller mission hospitals. Last year we sent funds

to Chinchpada Christian Hospital in Maharashtra to enable them to buy lab equipment; this year we have sent a grant for an effluent treatment plant at Karigiri Hospital, Schieffelin Institute of Health and an oxygen plant at Evangelical Hospital Khariar.

Thank you once again for your generosity.

With kind regards,



Ruth Tuckwell Friends of Vellore UK [www.friendsofvellore.org](http://www.friendsofvellore.org)

#### **Mission Support - St. Francis Hospital Katete:**

We have received an acknowledgement and Thank You for our recent Donation to the work of the Hospital. The Hospital have sent a copy of their latest Newsletter a copy of which is displayed on the Church Hall Notice Board.

Susan Gray



28 June 2023


Dear Ms Stack,

Thank you for giving the whole Bible story to more people around the world with your kind gift of £300.00 from All Saints Church, Bearsden, Mission Support Group. Please pass on our thanks to the group members, the elders and the congregation.

You are helping more people to understand all of the Word of God. People like François Kambou who said, *"I would like to know the story of creation, the story of the transmission of faith through the ages until the coming of the Lord Jesus. I would love to understand the Word of God as it was communicated to the prophets. Then I will be able to better live my faith as a Christian."*

Thank you for empowering Bible Societies across the globe to continue translating and distributing the Bible, giving the whole Word of God to more people like François and enabling them to know God and his ways better.

With warm Christian greetings,



Chief Executive

#### **Christians against Poverty**

Thank you for the donation of £500.00 from your church towards the work of Christians Against Poverty. Each gift is so valuable and will be used to transform lives, equip churches to thrive and move towards an end to UK poverty.

You're playing a huge part in transforming lives across the UK. Every year, our local church-based services get to share the hope of Jesus, and many respond to the gospel.

One CAP client said, **'I am no longer scared about the future; I am now debt free and I can breathe again. Since joining CAP I became a Christian and was baptised last May. I am now proud to say that I have the Lord in my life and in my heart.'**

We rely on the generosity of churches and Christians like you who share our passion to bring justice and salvation to the lost and hurting. Thank you for joining us, as together we strive towards the world we want to see: transformed lives, thriving churches and an end to UK poverty.

Every blessing,

**Stephen Wrightson** Supporter Care Team Christians Against Poverty

*There will be more thanks in the October magazine.*

#### **THE LYKE WAKE WALK, 13 - 14 AUGUST**

As I said, in the July issue, a group of us were going to attempt the Lyke Wake Walk. In the end we were just three, including me and Alexander. We set off early, 4am on Sunday morning, from the Cod Beck reservoir near Osmotherley at the western edge of the North Yorkshire Moors. For the most part, at the western end, the Lyke Wake Walk follows the Cleveland Way until the latter swings north. It was a glorious day for walking. The dawn was spectacular, the heather was in full bloom, the views sometimes stopped us in our tracks. All of which, I fear, led us into a false sense of security because after we had left the comforts of the Lion Inn at Blakey, the path disappeared and we trudged for miles across the dense heather (lovely to look at, difficult to walk through), took wrong turnings and generally made very slow progress. By 10 p.m. we had only reached the end of Wheeldale Moor and it was dark. Reluctantly, we gave up for the night which meant we could not complete the walk in 24 hours and join the prestigious New Lyke Wake Club .



We were back on the moors at 10.30 next morning, but the gods were determined to punish us for abandoning the challenge and soaked us with continuous rain for the last ten miles. Curiously, we had the hills to ourselves. We had just concluded that the much mentioned TV mast at Ravenscar must have been taken down when they switched off the analogue signal, when it loomed up out of the mist and we found the stone marking the end of the trek.



Despite the tired legs and impressive blisters, things looked a little better from the bar of the Raven Hall hotel. We did at least complete the walk within 24 hours walking time, we had raised £1000 for our chosen charities: UNICEF Ukraine (£635) and the Alzheimer's Society (£365), thanks to everyone who has been kind enough to contribute. Hint: the JustGiving page is still open <https://www.justgiving.com/user-account/fundraising>. Huge thanks to Helena who spent hours driving and waiting in car parks for walkers



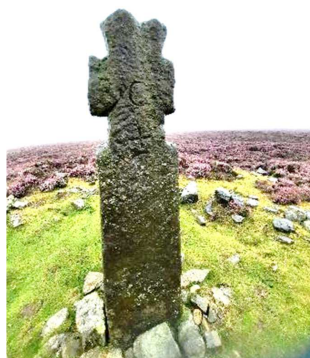
who were "not far away", but never seemed to arrive. For Alexander it was a useful warm-up for the silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition which was the following weekend.

As to the walk's spiritual significance, it has a tangential relationship with the Lyke Wake Dirge which tells of the soul's (lyke) journey after the

funeral party to Purgatory, at least part of which consists of one of the moors crossed on the seemingly endless trudge. The song's message is simple: those who are charitable in this life will earn an easy passage to the next, those who are not can expect to be pricked by the whinny (thorns) and burnt by the fire.

Those who want to follow this up, the song is at: <http://yorkshirefolksong.net/song.cfm?songID=85>.

On our walk we certainly learned the value of kindness and generosity.



Andrew Roach

## RENEWAL OF MINISTRY OF EUCHARISTIC ASSISTANTS

Several of our Eucharistic Assistants and Rev David went to St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday, August 19th, for the diocesan service celebrating lay ministries.

The service was presided over by the Bishop, the Rt Rev Kevin Pearson, with a sermon delivered by the Rev Canon Gordon Fyfe, the Bishop's Advisor in Lay Ministries.

During the service there was a renewal of the ministry of Eucharistic Assistants where they were all asked by the Bishop if they committed themselves to work as Eucharistic Assistants in their local congregations, serving God in all they meet. The Bishop then authorised them to assist in the administration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion within their local congregations and in any other ministry as directed by their Rector or Priest in Charge.

At a recent Vestry meeting the Rector and Vestry commended all of our EAs for the renewal of their ministry, expressing appreciation and support for them in their role.



Pictured after the service are Louise Benson, Rev David, Hanan Atalla and Jennifer Thompson. Unable to attend were Celia Fisher and Graham Caie.

The certificates signed by the Bishop giving our Eucharistic Assistants authority to carry out their ministry are being presented to all of them again by Rev David in church so the congregation can express their thanks for all the hard work they carry out during the year.

Revd David





So far, 2023 has not been exactly carefree for most of us. Global events and pressures closer to home have left us all wishing for better times.

So how about coming together to put the Bearsden Festival's ambition to support a more connected, caring and creative community into practice?

We know we're not going to change the world, but a programme of FREE events (because, let's face it, we are all feeling the pinch) could brighten up your September weekend and the year beyond. We invite you to have fun, be inspired, learn something new, discover a new hobby or just have a good chat in a worry-free space with friends and neighbours.

Details of events are on the website: [bearsdenfestival.org](https://bearsdenfestival.org)

*More information on how All Saints Church can participate will be available soon.*

## GARDENERS AT WORK



Ready for Christmas



The Axe Lady again and a Brave Man



Bribed with coffee and cake

## "E GROUP" RESTART

Following the summer break and a most enjoyable summer party, the E house group restarts on Tue Sept 5th, 7.30 at Elaine Perret's house.

We are an informal group with an age range from 19-80+ who combine fellowship with some bible/faith study, based on a book which we all choose together. We meet about once a month on different evenings in different houses. Our next venture is called "Faith in the Making" by Lyndall Bywater. It considers, through Bible passages and questions, how to grow in faith, focusing on the list of faithful heroes in Hebrews 11 (Abel, Enoch, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob etc.) If you want to know more, please contact me as we would love to welcome anyone who wants to come.

Celia

## ALL SAINTS AND ST ANDREWS CAKEWALK 2023

You are cordially invited to join the Cakewalk on **Saturday September 9th**. We will depart from St Andrews Church at about 11.30am. We will head up the West Highland Way, stopping for our lunch (bring your own!) at a convenient point.

Our destination this year is Ardbeg, at Easter Carbeth, where there will be the usual huge afternoon tea, and the opportunity to visit Mairi's garden



year is Ardbeg, at Easter Carbeth, where there will be the usual huge afternoon tea, and the opportunity to visit Mairi's garden



You are most welcome to come and enjoy the tea and cakes without doing the walk; it will be available from about 3pm.

As always, offers of baking and other help will be warmly welcomed.

You do not need to book, but it will help the organisation if you let Mairi know you are planning to come.

[mairi.e.ross@btinternet.com](mailto:mairi.e.ross@btinternet.com)



## ALL CHANGE

### A message from Mary Darke who moved to Yorkshire this year.

Greetings to everyone from West Yorkshire, together with apologies for the delay in writing. It has been an overwhelming experience to make so radical a change in one's life after nearly sixty years in Scotland.

Terry and I moved up to Scotland from London in 1964 when he became a member of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Our first year was spent in a cottage on the Auchineden Estate. I first attended All Saints church in 1965. The orchestra frequently rehearsed on Sunday mornings, but as there were no creche facilities at that time, mine was very irregular attendance.

All Saints old church hall was an excellent shape and size, so I began a couple of nursery ballet classes there, which over the years developed into a thriving ballet school. The stage was tiny but we did a couple of performances there before moving to a larger performance space. Many All Saints children came to my classes over the years. John and Susan Harrington gave me much valued help and support, Susan by playing the piano for my classes and John by making helpful

suggestions for music on a particular theme to which I could choreograph for my shows.

The old church hall was very difficult to heat and there were no proper changing facilities for the children. I gave several performances by the school in Milngavie Town Hall and donated the proceeds towards the rebuilding of All Saints hall.

Dancing has been a means of expression of worship since time immemorial. I have always been interested in liturgical dance, and welcomed the opportunity to introduce this on a few special occasions at All Saints. Once I choreographed a version of *Le Jongleur de Notre Dame* with Iain MacKay performing splendid cartwheels up and down the aisle of the church. The Steele family was hugely supportive. I taught all their four children from four years old upwards for many years.

Terry supported me throughout in every possible way. It was always special when I brought the children to dance in the church.

Mary Darke

*Mary is much missed at All Saints. For many years, she also wrote the column for All Saints in the Milngavie and Bearsden Herald. We wish her well in her new surroundings.*

## WEDNESDAY LUNCH GROUP RESUMPTION

The WLG will restart on **Wednesday 20th September** at noon in the Drymen Hall. As ever, come along for home-made soup, filled rolls and home-baked cakes in the company of convivial friends. We aim to meet very Wednesday until Christmas with a similar period of lunches between Christmas and Easter.



Please pass the word around too to all past attenders, and do bring along any other friends who you think might enjoy the food and the company. The usual quota of special events will be included in the programme, including the Christmas party in December. More details will be available nearer the time.

Andrew



We wish Andrew well in his new home:  
7, Albert Drive Bearsden G612NT.



## AUGUST

John Updike (1932-2009)

The sprinkler twirls.  
The summer wanes.  
The pavement wears  
Popsicle stains.

The playground grass  
Is worn to dust.  
The weary swings  
Creak, creak with rust.

The trees are bored  
With being green.  
Some people leave  
The local scene

And go to seaside  
Bungalows  
And take off nearly  
All their clothes.

From *A Child's Calendar*, 1965

In this poem Updike with his usual jaundiced cynicism wants to make us laugh, but this time he wants us to laugh not at ourselves but at him!

It is August, the tail-end of the summer, and he is bored and tired of it. Everything he sees is disappointing and scruffy: the pavements are dirty because it hasn't rained, the playground is worn out, and the swings are noisy and rusty. And, to cap it all, even the trees are bored with being green! It can't get any worse so some folks decide to go the seaside. But what does Updike expect them to do there? It's still August, so they take off their clothes and sunbathe!

Brenda Hadcroft

Editor's comment: I think Updike will be happy it's now September!

## A SCOTTISH-INDONESIAN DUTCH MOSLEM WEDDING

We attended the wedding in July of a good friend of the family, a lad who had spent a year with us while at school – now he's 42. He moved to the Netherlands many years ago and lives on a houseboat on a canal in Utrecht. It's a very comfortable 2-bedroom boat that must be fun to live on. Apparently the berth where it's moored is worth ten times the cost of the boat! He converted to Islam some time ago and his fiancée from Indonesia is also Moslem.

This was the first Moslem wedding we'd been to and it was conducted by an Australian Imam who was living in Sweden. There were many guests from Indonesia, Germany, France and of course Scotland. Many of the groom's Glasgow school and university friends were there. Altogether a cosmopolitan affair!



A specific attraction was that the wedding was taken place in a working windmill – one of those beautiful, old windmills that characterise Holland. It was situated on a canal – as most places are in Utrecht – and had attached to it an animal petting zoo with pigs, goats and dozens of geese. This was a major attraction for our grandchildren who were with us – with their parents – as they could play with the pigs when bored with the ceremony. It was spacious inside the windmill which was initially set up for the formal wedding service and then converted into

a dining hall for the reception.

The bride arrived by boat and was welcomed by the groom wearing a kilt and a bagpiper! The initial part of the wedding was conducted in fluent English by a Dutch registrar and this was followed by the Moslem part; there were different translations from and into a number of languages. One lady explained the significance of the Moslem ceremony to us in English which was very helpful. The legal part, called the *nikah*, is the signing of the marriage contract which requires witnesses and includes a *meher*—a formal



statement specifying the monetary amount the groom will give the bride. 'Handfasting' is an ancient tradition involving tying cords around the joined hands of the bride and groom and this could be where the term 'tying the knot' comes from, as it's found in other traditions, e.g., in the traditional Celtic ceremony. It represents the couple being bonded physically and spiritually to each other to show one's commitment to the other person. After the ceremony there was a 'wedding breakfast' where we met the bride's and groom's families and friends from all over the world. The children had fun in the petting zoo! This was followed by a canal trip to the reception hall with the bride and groom, cheered from the canal banks by onlookers, and there were stopovers to pick up from other houseboats members of the groom's band which was to play later. More food and drink here and lots of dancing and singing. The groom's band largely plays heavy metal music which was a trifle loud for us pensioners, but altogether a memorable day!

Graham Caie

## **PAUL WILLIAMS APPOINTED AS NET ZERO DELIVERY DIRECTOR**

The Scottish Episcopal Church has taken a significant step forward in its commitment to addressing climate change by appointing Paul Williams as the Net Zero Delivery Director.

The announcement was made during the General Synod in June, and Paul has now started in his new position, leading the implementation of the Net Zero Action Plan for the years 2023 to 2030.



Paul brings a wealth of experience and passion for environmental sustainability to his new role. After graduating, he moved to Scotland to work for the Scottish Wildlife Trust where he travelled around Scotland managing wildlife reserves. During this time, he volunteered for Christian conservation charity A Rocha UK where he interned with a community church in Possil Park, Glasgow, to connect local people with their greenspace. He went on to lead A Rocha's projects and partnerships in Scotland before moving to support the Climate Change Project at the Church of Scotland. Working ecumenically with Eco-Congregation Scotland, he developed new partnerships and projects for Scottish churches, including an international Church and Community Orchard Twinning Project.

"When the Scottish Government declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and church communities around the UK began setting carbon reduction targets, I drew on my knowledge of biodiversity and climate change to mobilise the Church

towards more ambitious climate action through its Net Zero commitments. I am very excited to start my new role at the Scottish Episcopal Church and join my brothers and sisters in Christ in pursuing climate justice and seeing God's creation restored," said Paul.

Paul will be responsible for steering the implementation of the Net Zero Action Plan by providing guidance and resources to dioceses and charges, collaborating with churches and national partners, and translating the information gathered from the Net Zero Toolkit and Check List into actionable measures.

### **"Net Zero" Environmental Group Now Formed at All Saints**

I am pleased to inform you that we now have a group of volunteers for our net zero environmental group (previously advertised in the May magazine). The group will comprise myself (as chair), the Rector, John Harrington, Imogen Roach and Ellen Whitmore-MacDonald. We shall update you on progress as soon as we have started meeting.

David Simmons

## **A FEW WORDS FROM YOUR LAY REPRESENTATIVE**

Since General Synod, followed swiftly by Rev. David's installation, in June it has (thankfully) been relatively quiet in terms of my duties as your Lay Rep. We are just moving into a busier time with meetings of Diocesan and North-West Regional Councils coming up in late August/early September. Also in late August we have the celebrations of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of neighbours St. Augustine's Dumbarton (probably happening as you read this magazine).

On a personal note, I was glad that I took the morning off work to attend the funeral of George Inwood at St. Andrew's, Milngavie on Wednesday, 16th August. I first got to know George as an occasional organist at All Saints not long after I first started coming in the mid-1990s. More recently we had many a pleasant chat during coffee breaks at rehearsals with Clydebank Musical Society, for whom George was a rehearsal pianist. After the funeral, thankfully attended by many of George's musical theatre buddies as well as members of All Saints and St. Andrews, I reminded George's son Max about a chance meeting we had during a visit to London a few years ago in the café at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square. It was fascinating to hear during Max's eulogy all about George's early life in Clydebank followed by his time spent in Gold Coast (later Ghana) before moving to Milngavie. George, as remembered by all, was a warm human being who had a positive impact on those he met and will be much missed by friends and family.

David Simmons

## FAREWELL JEREMY

Our lovely organist Jeremy has left us for pastures new. Jeremy's last service was on the 20th August and we are all very sad to see him go as he has contributed so much over these last two years and it has been a delight to see and hear his ever confident and uplifting spirit in his music and outlook. Rev David thanked him during the service, presenting Jeremy with a card signed by the congregation, a personal present and an envelope containing, as David put it "something of more practical use". We were gifted an anthem by Mendelsohn: "Above All Praise" which was followed shortly afterwards by the postlude; the last movement of Mendelsohn's 5th organ sonata which of course was warmly received by the congregation who had all remained seated for this last delight.



Refreshments in the hall and a further presentation by the choir followed the service. Jeremy will be taking up his new position as organ scholar to Guildford Cathedral soon with his first service on 1st September. We all wish him well in his new post and we will be keeping an eye on his future career which I am sure will be noteworthy.

We have already advertised for a new organist but there are many churches in the same position at the moment so it may be some time before we can welcome another person to take up the baton. Meanwhile, Susan and I will fill in the gap as we are able, with hopefully the help of one or two young organists when possible.

John Harrington

## FREE WILL OFFERING ENVELOPES / GIFT AID RECORDS

The 2023-24 Free Will Offering envelopes will be available on 17th and 24th September in the church hall before and after the 10:30am service.

Issuing the new sets of envelopes seems a good time to update the Gift Aid records. Please let me know if you have

1. **Changed Address.** The church must provide the Inland Revenue with the addresses of Gift Aid donors.

2. **Want to cancel your Gift Aid declaration** The Income and/or Capital Gains Tax you pay must be more than the total amount of Gift Aid claimed by All Saints and other charities. (Gift Aid boosts a donation by 25%)

This year the Free Will Offering envelopes are slightly different as our previous supplier is, unfortunately, no longer trading. I would be interested to know how you like them.

Penny Inglis

## VESTRY NOTES 7 AUGUST 2023

- The Vestry expressed sincere thanks and gratitude to Jeremy Wan, our organist, who is leaving on 20 August to become Organ Scholar at Guildford Cathedral. His music has brought great and unforgettable joy to us all, and we wish him every success in his new role.
- Mrs Sheila Benson has left a generous legacy to the Church for festival flowers. This will be known as 'The Sheila Benson Flower Fund'.
- Andrew Long gave his financial report for the third quarter. He then informed the Vestry that it is his intention to step down from his role as Church Treasurer at the end of the financial year. The Vestry thanked him very warmly for his eight years of loyal service.
- Rev. David is looking at a revised pattern of special services building on those we have at the moment. He will share the details with us in due course.

Brenda Hadcroft

## PURPLE EDGE

You will have noticed that the shop, Purple Edge, across from the church, has ceased trading. Susan Gilmour, the owner, has been a great supporter of All Saints having printed the magazines, service sheets and notices for many years. She will continue with this service from her new base and can be contacted at [sales@purplethistleprint.com](mailto:sales@purplethistleprint.com) for any printing requirements. We wish her well in her new venture.



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Funeral

Grant Taylor (1943-2023)	14 July 2023
George Inwood (1930-2023)	15 August 2023
Juliet Borthwick (1944-2023)	16 August 2023

<p>Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, though they die, will live.'</p> <p style="text-align: right;">John 11:25</p>
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**A Further Note on Bricks without Straw** from Revd. David (and Wikipedia)  
Many clay products require the addition of other materials to add strength and durability. In the case of bricks in Old Testament Egypt – river clay is usually composed of very fine particles and so would dry slowly – adding straw would "open up" the clay, allowing it to dry more readily in the sun. In addition to aiding in drying, the linear nature of straw adds stability to the clay brick in much the same way that rebar or wire mesh reinforce modern-day concrete. Bricks made without straw would break and crumble easily.

Many of us face the challenge of working with limited resources and we see this often in our churches. Equipped with less money, less time, dwindling energy, and fewer helpers, our workload may remain the same. Sometimes, it even increases. This predicament is understood by the diocese as they ask all churches to reflect on their *Bricks Without Straw* initiative. As mentioned in my letter on p1., this title refers to the Israelites' hardship as slaves in Egypt. Pharaoh decided to stop supplying them with straw, yet he required them to make the same number of bricks each day.

They scoured the land to find supplies, while Pharaoh's overseers beat them and pressured them to work harder (Exodus 5:13). The Israelites became so discouraged that they didn't listen when God said through Moses, "I will rescue you . . . , and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm" (6:6).

Although the Israelites refused to hear God's message, God continued to guide and direct Moses, preparing him to speak to Pharaoh. God remained firmly on Israel's side—at work behind the scenes. Like the Israelites, we can become so downhearted that we ignore encouragement. In dark times, it's comforting to remember that God is our deliverer, and he is always at work on our behalf, even if we can't see what he is doing.

## SUNDAY SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

Services will be held both in Church and on Zoom at 10.30 am  
Andrew Long will provide the log in details on request.  
Please remember to mute yourself during the service.

Date Sunday	3 September Trinity 13 (Green)	10 September Trinity 14 (Green)	17 September Trinity 15 (Green)	24 September Trinity 16 (Green)
<b>Celebrant</b>	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest	Rev David Guest	Rev John Riches
<b>9am Service</b>	Said Eucharist (1970 Liturgy)		Said Eucharist (1970 Liturgy)	
<b>10.30 Service</b>	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist	Sung Eucharist
<b>Stewards</b>	Joyce James	David Hamblen	Tracey Conway	Celia Fisher
<b>Eucharistic Assistants</b>	Louise	Graham	Hanan	Jenny
<b>Readings</b>	Jeremiah 15:15-21 Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28	Ezekiel 33:7-11 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Genesis 50:15-21 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35	Jonah 3:10 – 4:11 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20: 1-16
<b>Reader</b>	Janet Stack	Graham Caie	David Simmons	Mary Stott
<b>Intercessor</b>	Sheena MacDonald	David Simmons	Louise Benson	Andrew Long
<b>After-service Coffee</b>	<b>Pauline</b> Anne Shirlaw	<b>Gillian</b> Fiona	<b>Sheena</b> Kate	<b>Mairi</b> Elaine
<b>Other events</b>	The 9am Said Eucharist will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. There will be an 11.30am Said Eucharist on the 1st Wednesday of the month using the 1970 liturgy			

The Editor for the October edition will be Janet Stack. Please send articles to [janet.stack@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.stack@btinternet.com) by **Sunday 23rd September, 2023.**