

# *St Mary's Monthly Newsletter*

*Issue 22*



## *October 2023*

## *Church Services*

|                     |                       |                             |                                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sunday 1st October  | Trinity 17<br>Harvest | 8.00am<br>10.00am           | Holy Communion<br>Choral Eucharist    |
| Sunday 8th October  | Trinity 18            | 10.00am<br>6.00pm           | Parish Eucharist<br>Evensong          |
| Sunday 15th October | Trinity 19            | 8.00am<br>10.00am           | Holy Communion<br>Choral Eucharist    |
| Sunday 22nd October | Trinity 20            | 10.00am<br>4.00pm<br>6.00pm | Parish Eucharist<br>4th@4<br>Evensong |
| Sunday 29th October | All Souls             | 10.00am<br>4.00pm           | Parish Eucharist<br>All Souls Service |

***Please note a service of Mattins is held every Thursday at 10.00am***

## *Message from the Rectory...*

Dear Friends

We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on 1<sup>st</sup> October. It's a real favourite with so many families. Seeing the church decorated with flowers and food, makes it colourful and joyous. And there are the hymns, we all know them don't we, 'We Plough the Fields and Scatter' and 'Come Ye Thankful People Come'. It's a time to be thankful to God for what we have, what we have achieved and what has been made possible through God's blessing.

I think it is a wonderful celebration because we are remembering our partnership with God, and through that partnership much is achieved, as the hymn says, 'we plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand'. All too often we leave God out of our ventures and think it's all about us, and yet, when we ask God to be part of our plans it's amazing how much better they turn out!

Harvest Festival is celebrated in various forms all over the world, but one place that will celebrate Harvest on the 1st October, like us, is Germany, where it is called, 'Erntedankfest' or Harvest Thanksgiving. And it's from Germany that probably our best loved hymn, 'We Plough the Fields and Scatter', comes from.

The hymn began as a German Poem in 1782, by Matthias Claudius. Claudius was a German journalist and philosopher who wanted to write a poem about a group of peasants gathering for a banquet and singing a "Peasants' Song". Originally it had seventeen verses and was called "Paul Erdmann's Fest", depicting friends coming over to Paul Erdmann's (earth-man) house and having a party. The poem praises both Erdmann for his

hospitality and God as the ultimate source of the feast. This is very much a collaboration between God and earth, where God provides all the right conditions for the seed to grow and the earth nurturing God's gift so that it produces the harvest for all to enjoy, humanity works the land to ensure the fruits of this collaboration are the best they can be.

The poem begins with a description of Creation, "In the beginning" and then by the third verse we have the familiar words we know today,

"Wir pflügen, und wir streuen den Samen auf das Land, doch Wachstum und Gedeihen steht in des Himmels Hand:...

The original tune was not the one we sing now, that came later in 1800 and was written by J.A.P. Schulz in 1818 which he called "Wir Pflügen"!

The hymn first appeared as a hymn in our English hymnbooks in 1868 and is very much part of our Harvest Celebration and I think it is in Germany too!

So come, sing it at our Harvest Festival and think about what you want to be thankful for. The Harvest, your health, our decking, a vaccine, a holiday, family, friends? There is so much to be thankful to God for and all too often we forget to say thank you. So, use this festival to give thanks to God for all that He has given you and give some thing back by way of food or donation for those less fortunate than ourselves. Giving thanks is good, but giving thanks by giving to others is even better!

Every Blessing, Rev. Phe

*You are invited to join us for*

# **All Souls' Day**

**OCTOBER 29TH @ 4PM**

*Prayers for our departed loved ones*





*During the service the names of those who have died are read out and a candle is lit in their memory.*

*If you cannot attend, you will still be in our thoughts and prayers and, if you want, the name of your loved one will be read out and a candle lit on your behalf.*

*We can now offer names to be placed in our Book of Remembrance. The cost is £25 per entry*

*Please email or call by Wed 25th October  
[admin@stmarysstokedabernon.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysstokedabernon.org.uk)/01932 866005  
with whether or not you will attend/the name of your loved one*

*If you want to go ahead with the Book of Remembrance please advise full name and date of death.*

*This should only be used for those with a direct connection with St Mary's*

## ***JUNE BURT R.I.P.***

It is with the greatest sadness that we announce the passing of June Burt. June was a long standing member of the congregation of St Mary's, her husband was a churchwarden. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Her funeral will take place at St Mary's on **Wednesday 4th October at 11.30am**. The family would like to invite all her friends to attend and join them for refreshments afterwards in the hall.

## ***Parish Registers***

### ***Marriage***

***2nd September— Antonia Murray and Jamie Lawlor***

***We pray for Antonia and Jamie and wish them a long and happy life together***

### ***Funerals***

***28th September—Elizabeth (Liz) Owler***

***May she rest in peace and in rise in Glory***

### ***Music at St Mary's***

#### ***Choral Eucharist***

***Sunday 1st October 10.00am***

*The setting for Mass for our harvest service will be :*

*Missa brevis St Joannis de Deo Selling*

*The choir's anthem will be:*

*Thou Visitest the Earth bu Maurice Green*

## ***Lunchtime Concert at St Mary's***

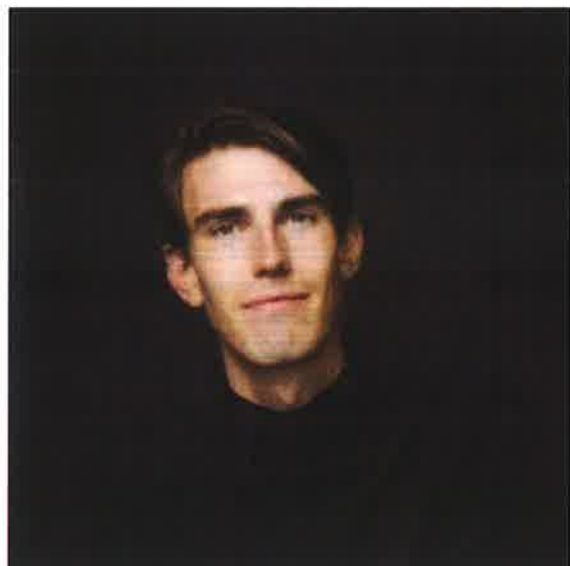
***Thursday 26th October 2023***

### ***Jonathan Eyers and Nathan Williamson***

There has been a change to the published lunchtime concert for October. We are now delighted welcome Jonathan Eyers and Nathan Williamson.



Nathan Williamson



Jonathan Eyers

Baritone Jonathan Eyers and pianist Nathan Williamson will present a recital of songs from Suffolk, including Nathan Williamson's recent song-cycle '*Grey and Green are all my Light*,' which sets poems based on tales of Suffolk fisherman taken from Robert Jellicoe's recent book, *Shorelines*. Alongside are folksong arrangements by Benjamin Britten, as well as songs by Martin Shaw, who also lived in Southwold and was a key figure in the British music scene in the mid-20th Century - he was commissioned by Britten for the very first Aldeburgh Festival as well as editor (alongside Vaughan Williams) of a number of collections of carols and hymns.





# CONCERT & MUSIC PROGRAMME 2023



1 PM **THURSDAY 28th SEPTEMBER**

IUNCHTIME CONCERT

Martin Toyer - Organ

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6 PM **SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER**

THE QUEENES CHAPPELL

William Byrd : The Nightingale's Own Brother

*This is a ticketed event*

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1 PM **THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER**

IUNCHTIME CONCERT

Dawn Hardwick - Piano

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6 PM **SUNDAY 5th NOVEMBER**

THE QUEENES CHAPPELL

Monteverdi : The Man

*This is a ticketed event*

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6 PM **SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER**

Bach Evensong

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1 PM **THURSDAY 30th NOVEMBER**

IUNCHTIME CONCERT

Pupils of Yehudi Menuhin School

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1 PM **THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER**

IUNCHTIME CONCERT

Philip White - Jones - Christmas Organ Recital

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7 PM **WEDNESDAY 20th DECEMBER**

THE QUEENES CHAPPELL

*This is a ticketed event*

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FOR MORE DETAILS OF THESE OR ANYTHING  
ELSE THAT IS GOING ON

AT ST MARY'S

PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE

01932 866005

ADMIN@STMARYSSTOKEDABERNON.ORG.UK



## *Decking Refurbishment Completed*

*Sue Prentice*

A huge thankyou to everyone who donated to our recent decking appeal; your generosity has been so appreciated and has enabled us to proceed rapidly with the repairs. We are also very grateful to David Lewis, our Surrey County Councillor who helped us receive a £10,000 donation from the Your Fund Surrey pot; a Surrey County Council capital fund designed to support local community projects.

We were shocked and dismayed back in May when we discovered that the joists supporting the hall deck had rotted and cracked, resulting in the deck sinking . This was a real health and safety hazard that meant we had to stop the decking area being used with immediate effect. Not only were we faced with the costs of replacing the decking but also potentially the opportunity cost of missing out on hirings at the peak time of the year.



We needed to move quickly as having the decking out of use was a major issue. We managed to get five quotes from a range of suppliers. We chose the London Decking Company as our preferred contractor, a specialist decking company and have been very pleased with the selection. They were able to commence work in early July and the project was completed by the end of July at a cost of just over £24,000.



It has been such a relief to have the decking back in use and on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September we held a celebration to officially mark the re-opening of the decking; to thank everyone for their contribution and to thank Councillor David Lewis for suggesting that the Your Fund Surrey would be a possible source of funds and his support with our successful application. As a result of everyone's generosity I am delighted to say that we have now covered the costs of the work undertaken.

As you can see from the photos the sun shone and it was so lovely to see everybody sitting out on the deck, socialising and enjoying a glass of fizz.



*Sue Prentice*

## HERALDRY AT ST MARY'S - PART TWO

By Stephen Chater

The focus of the previous article, which appeared in the February 2023 Newsletter Issue 15, was on the armorial glass in the Norbury Chapel. This article considers the heraldry on display on some of the monuments and elsewhere in St Mary's.

One spectacular example is to be found on the pulpit, to which Sir Francis Vincent added his arms after he was created a baronet. The arms (technically known as quarterly of six) show his descent from the families of Vincent, Vincent of York, Swinford, Bernake, Semarke and Lyfield. In the centre of the arms is depicted the red hand of Ulster on a white shield, which is the badge of baronets. This recalls the fact that the rank of baronet was created by James I in 1611 in order to allow him to sell titles to wealthy and ambitious individuals. The proceeds of these sales were then used to help pay for the colonisation of Ulster by settlers from Great Britain.

Beneath the arms themselves is the Vincent family motto *Non Nisi Vincenti*, which can be translated as *Only to him who wins*. Sir Francis may, however, have savoured a possible alternative translation along the lines of *You do not succeed without the Vincents*.



It should not be forgotten that a woman, as well as a man, can bear arms, either by inheritance from her father or by grant to herself. An unmarried woman typically displays her arms on a diamond shape (known as a lozenge) or oval shape rather than on a shield. A married woman can unite her arms with those of her husband in what are called



marital arms. Their arms are impaled, meaning they are placed side by side on the same shield,

with those of the man on the dexter (left, as seen from the front) and those of his wife on the sinister (right, as seen from the front). A widowed woman usually displays the impaled arms on a diamond-shaped lozenge. In St Mary's, there are examples of each.

In the Norbury Chapel, there is a brass commemorating Dame Anna Norbury above which is a shield showing her as a married woman with the arms of her Norbury husband on the dexter and, on the sinister, her own arms combining those of her Crosier father and her D'Abernon grandmother.

Also in the Norbury Chapel, the monument to Dame Sara Vincent displays the Vincent arms of her husband to the left of the structure and her own Paulet arms to the right, while the impaled Vincent and Paulet arms to the right, while the impaled Vincent and Paulet arms are displayed together on a shield above the monument.



On a memorial towards the south end of the west wall of the church, there are the arms of a widow, Dame Ann Bayley, who died in 1818. She was the second wife of Sir Nicholas Bayley, 2nd Baronet, and survived him by 36 years. The lozenge on the tablet displays the Bayley arms on the dexter and those of Dame Ann's own family on the sinister.

The memorial over the south door follows a similar pattern. This commemorates Mary Jane Phillips who died in 1842 and who was the widow of William Phillips. They were the parents of Frederick Parr Phillips who was Rector of Stoke D'Abernon 1862-1898. The lozenge on the tablet displays the Phillips arms impaling those of Abbiss, Mary Jane's



*In August Newsletter readers were encouraged to send in photographs of visions they had experienced that had, even if only momentarily, 'taken their breath away because of their beauty, their humour or their charm. As always the parishioners of St Mary's did not let us down. Please enjoy pictures that have been shared...*



*Rosemary Vickers says:*

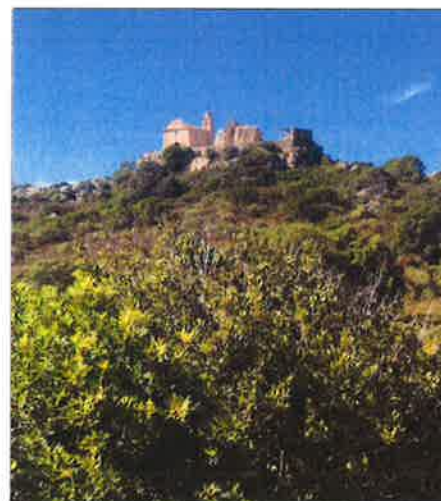
*This tree is in Stoke Road, opposite the Tilt. It is a splendid sight in Spring and Japanese tourists can sometimes be seen photographing themselves under the boughs.*

***Sara Read writes:***

*While in Calvi, Corsica in July Ian and I paid a second visit to the Chapelle de Notre Dame de Serra. We had been there about twenty years ago and its position and beauty had remained with us. The chapel was built on the hillside overlooking the town in 1479.*

*This jewel, as a tiny speck, can be seen from below. It is approachable by road but it is far more enjoyable to walk up the hill from the town to it. The sculpture represents the Virgin Mary who the Calvis have entrusted to protect their city. A pilgrimage has been dedicated to her for 500 years. The celebration of Notre Dame de la Serra takes place every year at the beginning of September.*

*One arrives at the building expecting to see a very simple chapel but most people are amazed by the elaborate nature of the interior and are left wondering how the raw materials were transported up the hillside more than 500 years ago.*



Vicky Young sent in these beautiful photos of the Centenary Wood at Langley Vale, managed by the Woodland Trust. [Langley Vale Wood - Visiting Woods - Woodland Trust](#)

The site caters for everyone with activities for children, such as the 'Minibeast Event' to organised 'Mindfulness Walks' for all ages

**The Woodland Trust** purchased the site in 2014 as the First World War Centenary Wood for England. They have since planted around 180,000 trees, many of these with help from the local community.

**The Regiment of Trees** commemorates Lord Kitchener's inspection of troops on Epsom Downs in January 1915, 12 figures stand among a mix of native broadleaf trees, evoking stories of the harsh blizzard conditions in which the 20,000 volunteer soldiers waited for Kitchener's arrival, some not even fully kitted out. Together, the sculptures and trees create a living tribute to the civilian men who answered the call to join Kitchener's New Army.

**Witness by John Merrill** Inspired by the paintings of official war artist Paul Nash and carved with words by seven poets from the period, this memorial feature creates a space for contemplation. Witness is constructed from around 35 pieces of oak and stands over six metres tall. Excerpts from poems are carved inside the sculpture.

(Text taken from The Woodland Trust Website)



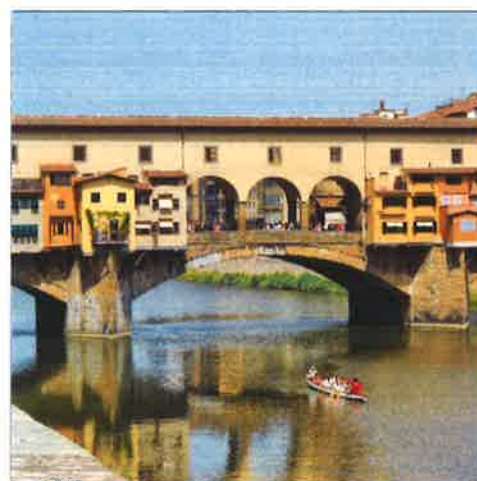


Polly has enjoyed some memorable holidays this year and was happy to share these pictures with us



*Worth climbing that hill for this view of Florence*

*Always wanted to see this - Ponto Vecchio in Florence. Learnt about this in Latin many moons ago*



*And finally....*



*How does this stay standing?*



*Just shows teenagers are never without their phones - Eva on a camel in the Egyptian desert*

# **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Revd. Phe Pamphilon-Green**

**Proposed dates September 2024**



Israel is worth seeing with your own eyes. Its sights are breath taking - from Biblical ruins to Crusader fortresses to WWII memorials to cosmopolitan cities. Whilst Tel Aviv is the cosmopolitan heart of Israel, Jerusalem is its spiritual centre.

If you just read the headlines, a visit to Israel can seem scary. For 1,500 years, Christians, Jews and Muslims have struggled over the Holy Land. The presence of barbed wire and soldiers serve as a reminder that there are still problems to be worked out, yet no angry group is angry at tourists and no popular tourist centres have ever been targeted.

Phe is planning to run a tour in September 2024. With the help of Polly (who has been planning and running tours to Israel since 2002) they have put together an itinerary that will, hopefully, suit everyone. The aim of the tour is to be a gentle introduction to the sites of Israel, with time for prayer and reflection as we go.

Your tour will start in peace and tranquillity, in Tiberius on the Sea of Galilee. From here, you will visit Nazareth, Cana, the Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, Caesarea and a multitude of other New and Old Testament sites. You will also begin to understand the



strategic importance of the territory and why it is fought over. You will then move on to Jericho, through the Judean Desert (Wilderness) and on to the amazing fortress of

Masada. Perhaps take a dip in the Dead Sea; before making your way up to Jerusalem.

An experienced Messianic guide will show you the wonders of the Old City as well as the rich flavours and contrasts of the New: not only is Jerusalem the home of our Christian faith but its cosmopolitan atmosphere, multi-cultural population and deep importance for other faiths ensure compulsive viewing around every corner.

Climb up to the Mount of Olives. Take a day trip to Bethlehem. Visit the site of the Garden of Gethsemane. Tour the Temple Mount and the Wailing Wall. Walk along the Via Dolorosa to the Holy Sepulchre and the Garden Tomb. Visit the Cardo, the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and the Israel Museum.

There is so much more to see than can be described in a few paragraphs.

If this is something that interests you then please let Polly or Phe know. A full itinerary and prices will be available soon, but it would be nice to have an indication of interest before the tour is opened to other Churches in the Diocese. Places will be limited.

Polly Zabari, Parish Administrator, St Mary's

01932 866005





17:00  
19:00

# Spud Supper

**1st Monday of each month**

MONDAY OCT 2ND

MONDAY NOV 6TH

MONDAY JAN 8TH

MONDAY FEB 5TH

MONDAY MARCH 4TH

PLEASE KEEP THE DATES FREE  
AND LOOK FOR THE SIGN UP IN  
THE CHURCH OR CONTACT THE  
PARISH OFFICE.

**Pls RSVP in advance**

**All Welcome**

£10 per head

£5 for U12s

01932 866005

or

sign up sheet at the back of the church  
or email

[Admin@stmarysstokedabernon.org.uk](mailto:Admin@stmarysstokedabernon.org.uk)



# **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

**AT  
ST MARY'S,  
STOKE D'ABERNON**

**Dec 1st - 3rd 2023**

**FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 4.30 - 8PM  
GRAND SWITCHING ON AT 4.30PM**

**SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 10AM - 7PM**

**SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER 12 - 6PM**

**FOLLOWED BY OUR ADVENT CAROL SERVICE**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPLY AND DECORATE  
A TREE PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE  
[ADMIN@STMARYSSTOKEDAERNON.ORG.UK](mailto:ADMIN@STMARYSSTOKEDAERNON.ORG.UK)  
01932 866005**

## ***Forthcoming Events at St Mary's***

Saturday 30th September—6pm Concert *William Byrd 'The Nightingale's Own Brother'*

Sunday 1st October—10.00am *Harvest Service*. (Donations to Cobham FoodBank)

Monday 2nd October—5-7pm *Spud Supper*—Harvest Theme

Tuesday 3rd October—2.30pm Discussion group at the home of Brenda Brown

Sunday 22nd October—4.00pm *4th@4* Our monthly service for Primary School aged Children

Sunday 29th October—4.00pm Service for All Souls

Weekend 1-3rd December—*Christmas Tree Festival*—culminating in:

Sunday 3rd December—Advent Carol Service

Friday 15th December—St Mary's Christmas Lunch

Saturday 27th January—Burns Night Dinner and Dancing

## ***Monthly Discussion Group***

The next discussion group will take place on Tuesday 3th October

The meeting starts at 2.30pm and will be held at the home of ...



The church will be open from April to October on Saturday and Sunday afternoons between 2pm and 4pm and we need some new guides. If you are interested please contact Polly.

We are very grateful to everyone who contributes articles towards St Mary's Monthly Newsletter. If you feel you have something of interest that you would like to share please get in touch with Sara Read at [sread104@gmail.com](mailto:sread104@gmail.com). [Please may I request that if you are writing a feature for the newsletter that you use 'Microsoft Word' as that is the easiest format for me to transfer from, Thank you.]

Closing date for contributions for the November issue is **Wednesday 18th October 2023.**