

Chalfont St Giles Parish Magazine

A large, vibrant bouquet of orange poppies with dark centers and green foliage is the central focus of the image. The flowers are arranged in a dense, rounded shape. In the background, a church interior is visible, featuring a stained glass window with a figure in white and blue robes, and a stone wall. The lighting is warm and natural, suggesting an indoor setting with light coming from a window.

September-November 2026

The Parish Church of Chalfont St Giles

<https://csgparish.church>

in the Benefice of Chalfont St Giles with Seer Green and Jordans

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Email your copy to: stgileschurchmagazine@gmail.com

Deadline for the next issue: November 13th

Please send diary dates to:

Church - Parish Office at: saintgileschurch@gmail.com
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Chalfont St Giles Parish Magazine is edited, produced and distributed entirely by volunteers.

Welcome

This issue contains tributes to three members of the church, born within the space of three years in the 1930s, that we have sadly lost during the past few months. We remember what they contributed to both church and village life.

At the same time we look to the future with the events that are planned for the next few months. There are special services and musical events to look forward to. And we can follow Dan on his pilgrimage and look forward to his return.

Thanks to all contributors, both those who were asked by me to write the tributes and those who volunteer. Please send me anything you would like included.

The Editor

Magazine articles and photos are always welcome and can be emailed to:

stgileschurchmagazine@gmail.com

Deadline for next edition: November 13th 2026



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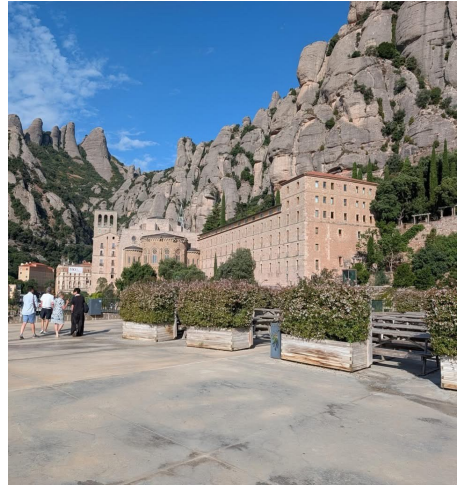
Dan's Progress

As Dan is not able to produce his usual letter I have selected some pictures to illustrate his progress from his Facebook page for anyone who is not able to access it easily.



From top left, clockwise

Walsingham: Shrine of Our Lady
Kevelaer, Germany: Site of pilgrimage to honour the Virgin Mary
Czestochowa, Poland: The Black Madonna in the Jasna Gora Monastery
Studenica, Serbia: dedicated to the presentation of the Virgin Mary
Medugorje, Bosnia: Statue of the Virgin Mary



Clockwise from top left

Einsiedeln, Switzerland: Abbey with the shrine of the Black Madonna
Montserrat, Spain: The Abbey with the image of the Virgin of Montserrat
Zaragoza, Spain: Cathedral dedicated to Our Lady of the Pillar
Loreto, Italy: Basilica of the Holy House of the Annunciation
Saint-Gilles, France: Abbey founded by St Giles which contains his tomb
 To continue, click on the link in the bulletin to Dan's Fb page.

Churchwardens' Corner - Part 1



It seems to me that trying to tie up negotiations to take over a building that one party owns, another party uses and a third party would like to use, is not unlike waiting for a London bus. Nothing much happens for ages then all three emerge at the same time!!

Many of you will have been aware that for the last eighteen months we have been in legal dialogue with Action4Youth to take over the building known as “Three Households Hall” or “The Youth Club” on Narcot Lane.

I am delighted to tell you that we became “owners” under the Trust Deed of the building on 28th July 2026. The distinction of the Trust is important for two reasons. As a Trust, with the PCC as trustees, the building is in our control and cannot be sold by the Diocese (nor, of course, by us). Secondly, that the Trust holds us responsible for providing “moral, cultural and physical development for the children and youth of CSG and its neighbourhood”.

Since the middle of July we have been in regular contact with the trustees of the CSGYC (who had successfully run a Youth Club up until Covid) and with a Dance Academy (Pips) who were keen to centralise all of their dance groups into one building.

The former youth club charity has been really helpful, bequeathing us many really helpful things such as computers, projectors (that Peter Heaps is assessing), two table tennis tables and books and arts for children. The first two weeks of August have been a hive of activity at the new Youth Centre (as it is now called) clearing out old stuff for recycling (much of which was

successfully taken), sorting out rubbish into two large skips and then painting the internal space. Much of this was accomplished working in tandem with Pips Dance Academy with whom we have agreed a five year deal.

There will be much more to say on this, but I wanted to finish by saying two big thank yous. Firstly, thank you to all those who have given significant time to bring the Youth Centre to where it is today, and secondly, to all those who have participated in the Stewardship campaign. The participation of all involved in the Youth Centre and Stewardship will help to ensure the viability of the church in the coming years – which is no mean feat given the fact that we have been running deficits of £20,000 - £30,000 pa for the last five years!!

The Youth Centre brings opportunities and challenges but I know people will come forward to provide the resource we badly need.

Richard Silman

Part 2



When Dan told Richard and me back in the spring of 2025 that he would be taking a sabbatical in the summer of 2026 I'm not sure we truly believed him. Or maybe we thought that would be under the tenure of the next set of Churchwardens and their responsibility. Well, Richard and I were mistaken on both counts!

Instead, we were tasked with finding ministers to help us out while Dan was on sabbatical. Did I mention that this sabbatical was going to encompass 13 Sundays? Well, let's make it 14

because Dan is entitled to a proper holiday with his family as well. Thankfully we would have Paul to help shepherd us as he did in the interregnum. Actually no - he too was to be on a required sabbatical after his official retirement and before he took up his PTO (Permission to Officiate). Then we thought "Thankfully we are part of a benefice so Jez in Seer Green could cover a service or two." Again, no! Jez had his own retreat and holiday commitments, as well as a busy parish to look after in Seer Green.

Great! No problem!

Richard and I dug in, making spreadsheets and lists, praying over them and consulting Dan for suggestions about whom we might approach. Emails were sent—and in some cases, sent again. Dates had to be juggled around visiting clergy's own church commitments, holidays and other well-earned breaks. In one case, we even had to consider the travel plans of a visiting bishop coming to the UK from Kenya.

We had one or two disappointing replies but for the most part those we approached were very happy to help. And of course, the generosity of Peter Miles and Garry Walton must be mentioned. Just as they did during the interregnum, they stepped up to preach in many of the gaps. With their help, we were able to schedule a full pulpit for every Sunday.

We would also like to thank our 8am congregation, who have been incredibly understanding that some of our visiting clergy are retired and find 8am a little too early - especially when they are travelling some distance. Our faithful 8am congregation graciously accepted Morning Prayer on some Sundays instead of Holy Communion.

At the time of writing, we are almost a month into the sabbatical - about a third of the way through - and so far, so good! Some lovely ministers have come to grace our pulpit and faithfully preached

God's word. The feedback from each of them has been wonderfully positive. We even had one tell us that, should a hiccup arise down the line, he would be happy to fill in again. It is comforting to have that offer in reserve, because we all know that these things can happen!

Most importantly, we know that this time of sabbatical is in God's hands. We are grateful for everyone who has helped us keep the Sunday rota filled and for the warmth with which our visiting ministers have been welcomed.

Rest assured Richard and I are looking forward to welcoming Dan home. We will be VERY happy to hand the Sunday preaching rota back into his capable hands.

If you have missed the pleasure of hearing the Word of God delivered by any of our visiting ministers, please go to the website and listen. Sermons are there for three months, so there is still time to catch up.

Janelle Stevenson



 CHALFONT ST GILES Parish Church

11 AM
6th Sept

 Messy Church

Tent on the green 11am

Service on the Green

Bring a chair and join us



St Mary & All Saints Church
BEACONSFIELD

COME AND SING

Vivaldi's Gloria (RV 589)

One of the most joyful and popular choral works of the Baroque period, with energetic choruses, beautiful melodies culminating in a triumphant finale!

Under the direction of Musical Director – Aaron Nihal King

No previous experience of the work is needed,
just a love of singing. All ages welcome!

Saturday 5th September 2026

St. Mary and All Saints Church
Beaconsfield HP9 2JW

Rehearsal at 2.00pm
Informal Performance 6.00pm

Hire of Score and Refreshments - £15.00 as donation to BCF charities
Donations at the Performance very welcome

Contact: WendyGodrich@btinternet.com



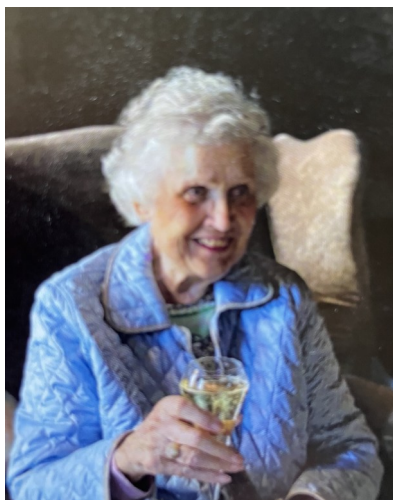
Friends of St Mary's
Reg Charity 1094574

In aid of



Tribute to Valerie Bayly Jones

1934 - 2026



In 1981 Denham Bayly Jones became the Rector of Chalfont St. Giles Parish Church and moved into the vicarage with Valerie, his wife, and Sophie, aged 9, and Philip, aged 5.

Valerie was born on the Isle of Wight, the youngest of three children. and went to school at Ryde. Her memories included having to go into the basement during the air raids. At 15, her parents thought she should learn the French language and she went to a convent in France with no knowledge of French. A schoolfriend would invite her to her home at the week-ends where her grandmother blamed Valerie for the bombing in France by the British!

Following her year in France she attended a secretarial college, worked in the Isle of Wight and then went to work at the Savoy Hotel from 1954-58, where she enjoyed the social scene in London. After the Savoy she worked in the Press Division of Siemens Edison, an electrical company, before going to the advertising agency,

Young and Rubicam, which she enjoyed.

In 1961 Valerie set sail on the Queen Mary for New York where, after living in a hotel for women for a while, she found an apartment. She loved New York. Then her boyfriend of three years died suddenly. She and a friend moved to Rome for three months helping Jewish refugees and displaced persons locate missing relatives in the USA. After Rome she spent a year in Freetown , Sierra Leone, working for a mining company, then back to the USA, assisting a producer of a documentary on great white sharks, 'Blue Water, White Death'. Denham Bayly Jones was a Church Minister in Trinidad and when on leave he would visit Valerie. They became engaged and in 1971 married. Denham returned to Trinidad with Valerie and in 1972 Sophie was born.

The family returned to the UK when Denham became Minister at St. Mary's Parish Church in Burnham. They were happy years in the parish making friends and socialising around the Rectory. Philip was born in 1976.

In 1981 Denham Bayly Jones was dedicated as Rector of Chalfont St. Giles Parish Church and welcomed into the parish. Valerie would do all she could to support Denham. After the morning service all at Church were invited into the Vicarage across the road as there were no facilities in Church to serve refreshments. All families were invited for tea or coffee or Denham's homemade beer, with Sophie and Philip asked to look after the children with drinks and biscuits while parents could chat. She always welcomed at church services and especially at the midnight Christmas Service so other mothers could be home quickly.

Valerie could appear quite formidable at times, of strong character and high standards, but behind this was a very generous, thoughtful and caring personality. Many times she would collect other parents' children from school and give them a 'Vicarage Tea' when mothers were unable to be at the school gate to collect their

children due to work or other commitments. Diane Barratt really appreciated it when she was delayed at school. Valerie wanted to be part of the village and was on several committees, including the Mothers' Union in the Reading Room.

Valerie enjoyed being part of the Open Gardens Event and although somewhat officiously asking visitors "Where is your ticket?" she insisted on bringing us a chicken dish and salad for the volunteers' lunch and an excellent Victoria sponge for 'tea' to save me having to prepare any food.

In 1988 tragedy hit the family with the sudden and unexpected death of Denham. Valerie was now without a husband, and with two children aged 12 and 16 needing care and support. She also suffered the loss of her home and needed to draw on her inner strength whilst mourning her own loss.

With the support of the Church, Deanery, church colleagues and friends, the Church Pension Board acquired a house in Back Lane for the Bayly Jones family to make their home. Over the following couple of years Valerie was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis which caused her difficulty but with specialist treatment she achieved remission.

Valerie was a young widow of 54 and she had to make a life for herself and her two children. She joined the Leonard Cheshire Home as a carer for clients with long term illnesses requiring special care and equipment and was appreciated by them all, some becoming good friends. She wanted to help the community and did so by organising drivers to take people for hospital appointments and surgery appointments which she did for over ten years. She was on the Parish Council, cooked for a monthly Lunch Club, was involved with the Good Neighbours Scheme and the Mothers' Union in the Reading Room, and had a major commitment to the Fawcett Trust in the Village which was very dear to her.

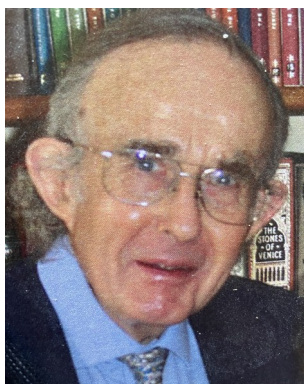
Valerie joined the National Trust as a Volunteer Guide at Hughenden Manor, which she enjoyed as Sophie and Philip had left home. She enjoyed entertaining with lunches, teas and coffee and drinks, being an excellent hostess.

I should like to pay a tribute to Sophie and Philip for the wonderful way they have supported and cared for their mother. I told her what wonderful children she had brought up – her reply, with a smile, was 'I must have done something right'.

Mary Bentall

With thanks to Sophie and Philip Bayly Jones

In Thanksgiving for Richard Ensor 1936-2026



Many of you will have fond memories of Richard and Wendy-Ann Ensor, who were active members of St Giles Church and involved in countless aspects of church life, including Lent Lunches, Church Watch, and leading a home-group Bible study. In their later years they continued to support the church faithfully with their love and prayers from their home, Little Orchard. Those who are newer to

St Giles may not have had the privilege of knowing them, but they were people who loved the Lord Jesus, cherished the church, and delighted in the beauty and poetry of the Book of Common Prayer. They are now among the faithful and joyful saints who have gone before us.

Richard passed away in May this year, nearly three years after his beloved wife Wendy-Ann, with whom he shared 61 years of marriage. A beautiful service of thanksgiving was held at St Giles in July, where their children—Tim, Lucy and Nick—and grandchildren shared moving memories and heartfelt tributes to a much-loved father and grandfather.

When I began my curacy at St Giles in 2017, one of the first things our Rector, the Revd Ian Brown, asked me to do was to prepare a shorter form of Morning Prayer (Matins) for pastoral home visits, particularly for use at the Ensors' home. There was always a warm welcome at Little Orchard, where we met monthly, often with others joining us for this gentle and deeply worshipful service. It was invariably followed by coffee and Wendy-Ann's homemade cakes and ginger biscuits.

Richard was born in Havant, Hampshire, in 1936. He moved to Chalfont St Giles as a young boy when his father was appointed to lead the Newlands Park Emergency Teacher Training College established in 1946 to meet the post-war demand for new teachers. Richard attended Gayhurst School and Merchant Taylors', and after National Service with the Royal Army Service Corps, he read law at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He qualified as a solicitor and practised in Chesham until his retirement.

Richard was an exceptionally intelligent man, but he wore his learning lightly. He remained humble, with a lifelong passion for reading, reflection, conversation, history, and continual learning. His Christian faith grew in the same way—through thoughtful

engagement, experience, prayer, and a deep desire to know Christ more fully.

When I first visited the Ensors at Little Orchard, Richard gently asked me what book I was reading and what I had learned from it. I made sure I was better prepared for my next visit! Over the years this became the foundation of a friendship in which we shared thoughts about our faith and exchanged recommendations for books that had enriched us. Among them were Tom Wright's writings on St Paul, Kenneth Bailey's "Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes", and Ian Black's "Enemies and Neighbours", as we sought to understand the history and complexities of Israel and Palestine. I remember many conversations with Richard about current affairs, history, theology, and the life of our local church.

Richard became a true friend and companion on the journey of life and faith. He will be greatly missed, but his gentle voice, wise encouragement, and thoughtful reflections remain with me. He was a mentor and an encourager, and this was echoed repeatedly in the tributes from his children and grandchildren, each of whom had stories of the quiet ways in which Richard had supported, guided, and inspired them.

We give thanks to God for the lives of both Richard and Wendy-Ann Ensor. They were deeply loved and will be greatly missed—for their devotion to Christ, their love for their family, and their faithful service to the church. We continue to hold the Ensor family in our thoughts and prayers as they come to terms with their loss.

The Revd Paul Henderson

Ian Johnson

1935-2026



Many of you will have known Ian from his long association with St Giles' Church, together with his late wife Robin. He will also be remembered by many more from the numerous ways in which he contributed to village life.

Ian was born in Brisbane, Australia in 1935, into a loving family, the elder of two brothers. Like so many of his generation, the War impacted Ian's childhood. His father volunteered for the Marine section of the Royal Australian Air Force and in 1942 Ian, his mother and brother were evacuated from Brisbane, to escape from the threatened Japanese invasion of Queensland. They stayed on a remote cattle station in northern New South Wales. Due to the farm's isolation, Ian's early education took place by Correspondence School, with lessons posted to him. Ian and his brother Bob later boarded at Toowoomba Grammar School, an experience he loved and talked about fondly throughout his life. After school, Ian gained an Honours Degree in Metallurgical Engineering at the University of Queensland in Brisbane. He also met Robin at university, initially part of a wider group of friends, but who later became his beloved wife. They met during Freshers' Week, at a dance at a sprung ballroom called Cloudland.

In 1957, after graduating, Ian joined a mining company in Mount Isa, a remote semi-desert environment around a thousand miles

northwest of Brisbane which in those days, had a very definite 'pioneering' atmosphere.

Ian had long been keen to travel overseas but the timing of his trip was influenced by Robin, who had by this stage moved to England and was showing no signs of returning to Australia. Ian therefore resigned from his job and followed Robin across the world. A few weeks later, in London, he and Robin became engaged.

Ian and Robin were married in October 1961 and shortly after their wedding, Ian was offered a post-graduate scholarship by his former employers at Mt Isa Mines. While stimulating professionally, Mt Isa was a harsh environment in which to live. Not wishing to bring up young children there, following the birth of their daughter, Catherine, Ian and Robin decided to leave Mt Isa and return to England where their son, Richard, was born. They wanted to live close to London and in 1966 Ian and Robin were fortunate enough to discover Chalfont St Giles, a place that became so dear to them throughout the rest of their lives.

Ian worked in the Mineral Economics Department of Selection Trust Group, later working for BP. He held a number of very interesting roles, which gave him the opportunity for travel to a wide range of countries including Iran, Egypt, South Africa, Canada as well as back to Australia. In the later stages of his career, he specialised in computing before retiring in 1995.

Ian had a wide variety of interests including sport, military history, DIY and music. He greatly enjoyed cricket and was involved with the village cricket club, captaining the second team for a number of years and taking roles on the committee. Music was another of Ian's interests. His taste included Australian folk music and particularly classical music, and he very much enjoyed attending concerts and opera. Because of the family's experiences, Ian had a strong interest in both World Wars. He was very involved with the Chalfont St Giles Poppy Appeal, including as Treasurer and was also Treasurer of the Western Front Association. In the 1990s, Ian began to research the details of the men of Chalfont St Giles who lost

their lives in the First World War. With a team from the village, this research was later developed into a book, which was published in 2024, and remains a long-lasting record of the village's social history around the war. Ian also contributed significantly to the Chalfont St Giles Memorial Hall and Jubilee Home Trust for many years.

His family were at the heart of Ian's life. As well as his family in England, he had many relations in Australia to whom he remained close throughout his life. He was a wonderful father, father-in-law, grandfather, great grandfather and more. Friends were also very important to Ian and he developed these through every facet of his life and notably maintained his friendships over many decades. He valued all his friends dearly, and they were particularly important following Robin's death when Ian was only 69. He greatly appreciated continuing to be actively included in village social activities.

Ian will be remembered as a kind, generous gentleman with a high level of integrity. His intellectual curiosity meant that he found the world endlessly fascinating. He always sought to make the most of his talents and opportunities and to support others to do the same. He had a strong sense of community and of the responsibility to contribute.

He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and the community more broadly.

Catherine Cuffley





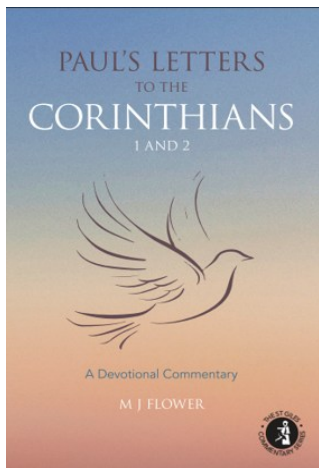
Music in Evening Worship

Evensong &
Choral Evensong
Services begin at 6pm

27th September - Choral Evensong

25th October – Evensong

22nd November – Choral Evensong



In this issue, we have the second extract from Mavis Flower's latest commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians. Paul explains that through the Holy Spirit, believers are united with the Trinitarian God and can share the selfless, loving, and humble mindset of Jesus Christ. By acknowledging Jesus as Lord, Christians grow out of spiritual immaturity and are transformed to follow His perfect, sacrificial example.

All Mavis's commentaries are available on Amazon, (search: 'M J Flower'), from book retailers, and copies can be found in Church - please see Richard Silman.

1 Corinthians 2:16. The mind of Christ.

We have the mind of Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:16).

Paul is doing an amazing thing here. On the one hand, God was doing a new thing in the lives of men and women through the cross of Christ. There was a new religious movement, variously called, 'the way', or 'the brethren', or 'the saints' or 'the Christians', which had arisen. On the other hand, this new movement could be said to have evolved from Judaism, whose only authoritative document was the Hebrew scriptures, although there had been many classical works by senior rabbis, elucidating or interpreting the scriptures. The Hebrew scriptures were frequently used by Paul to demonstrate accord between his teaching and that of the scriptures, which was, and is, the word of God.

Paul was tri-lingual, able to participate literally and orally in Aramaic, Greek, or Latin. (Acts 21:37,40; 23:25). Although he was a Jew, Paul usually used the Septuagint, LXX, the Greek translation

of the scriptures, rather than the Hebrew version, which accounts for some slight discrepancies in his quotations of scripture. But he is so thoroughly grounded in them that their language, images, and narratives have shaped his thinking. And while drawing support from Old Testament scriptures, it was important to him that the central claims of the gospel, that Christ has died, Christ has risen, and Christ will come again, should be in accordance with the scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:3,4).

How could Christianity with its credal formula, 'Jesus Christ is Lord', (1 Corinthians 12:1; Romans 10:9) be integrated with the Shema, 'The God our Lord, the Lord is one', (Deuteronomy 6:4), without disturbing Jewish monotheism? Paul emphatically and explicitly states that 'we know that there is no God but one, for although there be many so-called gods in heaven and on earth, as there are many gods and many lords, yet for us there is *one God* the Father, *from* whom are all things and for whom we exist and *also one Lord*, Jesus Christ *through* whom are all things and through whom we exist. (1 Corinthians 8:5,6).

From before the beginning of time, God had a Son who shared with Him the act of the creation of the world. (Proverbs 8:22-31). In the beginning God, *Elohim*, (*Hebrew*, '*Gods*' plural) created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1). He was in the beginning with God; all things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made. (John 1:1). God's Son was from before the beginning of time, part of the Triune Godhead.

But unless Christ came to dwell among men and women as part of the Godhead, as not only the Son of God but also Son of Man; if He was only a righteous Man, there was no purpose in his death. Only the Son of God, as God, could satisfy the demand of a Holy God to have a holy people like Himself, free from all sin, all deficiencies of the flesh and spirit, free from everything that would militate against His authority, against His will; a people who would acknowledge that unless He is Lord of all, He is not Lord at all.

So God sent Jesus. He sent his Son, the Son of God, the second Person of the Godhead into the world, made in the likeness of men, in the likeness of human flesh, (Philippians 2:7), so that the world might live through Him. Together with the Holy Spirit, the Father and the Son collaborated in the salvation of men and women, delivering them from the power of sin and death in a world which had turned its back on God. God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son, (John 3:16), and this is love, says John, not that we loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation, the atoning sacrifice, for our sin. (1 John 4:9).

Dunn says that this is breathtaking in its boldness. As Christians, we are familiar with the Trinitarian formula. But here there is a *logical transition* from the monotheistic understanding of God to which both Christians and Jews aspire, to the Three Persons of the Godhead, three persons included in One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We thank God that this God is our God for ever and ever. (Psalm 48:14). But for the salvation of mankind, there needed to be an incarnation of God, God's *God-ness* coming down to earth to live as a man.

Paul writes to Timothy, 'Great is the mystery of godliness. He is the One who manifested Himself in the flesh, was vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, believed on in the world, and taken up into glory'. (1 Timothy 3:16). The world of human beings needed an incarnated God, God who had come in the flesh to save us from our sins as Jesus, Saviour; (Matthew 1:21) and to be with us as Emmanuel, God with us. (Matthew 1:23).

God the Father is God. God the Son is God. God the Holy Spirit is God. He manifests Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit while maintaining both His unity and His individuality. Writing to Titus, Paul speaks both of God the Saviour and Christ our Saviour. (Titus 3:4,6). But when writing to the Corinthians Paul specifically states, 'We have the mind of Christ'. (1 Corinthians 2:16). What can he mean? What makes the distinction between the mind of the Lord and the mind of Christ?

We know that Christ dwells within believers, as Colossians so vividly expresses it. God has chosen to make known how great are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is *Christ in you*, the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27). Bruce explains, 'we have the mind of Christ as the man or woman who by the Spirit is united with Christ, shares the life of Christ, and by the same token, shares His mind. (Bruce p 41).

Let this mind be in you, says Paul, which was also in Christ Jesus, (Philippians 2:5), whose every action, every desire culminated in glory to His Father. (Philippians 2:11), the One who said, 'I do always those things that please Him', (John 8:29), who said, 'Not My will but Yours be done', (Luke 22:44). 'Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame'. (Hebrews 12:2). *This is the mind of Christ*. This is what He has given to us, the deep joy that was His, living in the will of God, of knowing that His word, the word of the cross, has still its ancient power, conforming us to the image of God's Son in order that He might be the first born among many brethren. (Romans 8:29).

This is what Paul is longing for for these beloved Corinthian believers, that they should move away from an infantile understanding of spiritual truth, (1 Corinthians 3:1), grow up from being babes in Christ, into a mature spirituality which begins with the acknowledgement that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:11). He is the Lord of Glory. (1 Corinthians 2:8), the Lord of their faith, the Lord of their understanding, the Lord of their lives; they have received the Lord Jesus into their thinking and He has given them joy unspeakable and full of glory, (1 Peter 1:8, KJV), the joy of knowing that God is faithful as He continually and constantly grants us the courage to take up our cross, that which He has given us to carry for His sake, and follow the One for whom the cross was the whole purpose and consummation of His life. This was the mind of Christ. This is the mind we too may have.

It was perhaps presumption on the part of Paul to state quite so

emphatically that 'we have the mind of Christ'. How can fallen human beings like ourselves have any idea what went on in the mind of the Lord Jesus while He was here on earth, or even now as He shares in the glory of the Father?

But we do have some ability, in all humility, to be able to gauge what is in a person's mind by the way they behave, while at the same time echoing the prayer of the tax collector, 'God be merciful to me a sinner'.(Luke 18:13).

So we do as the letter to the Hebrews suggests. We look to Jesus. We consider Him. (Hebrews 12:2,3). We see the life of One who took a towel, and girded Himself and washed the dusty, calloused feet of His disciples. (John 13:4,5), including the feet of the one who would betray Him. We see the One who had compassion on the multitudes because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd; (Matthew 9:36); who provided them miraculously with a meal of bread and fish; (Matthew 14:19); and at the end gave His life as a ransom for many, (Matthew 20:28), not in some ephemeral, visionary way, but actually, as a Man with a human body, allowing Himself to be hung on a cross. This is Jesus. This Is the mind of Jesus. This Is the mind of the anointed Jesus, the Christ. We worship Him.

So we first acknowledge Him as Lord of our lives, then we receive into our minds the word of the cross as we follow Him, and by His grace, having the mind of Christ we take the first baby steps along the way of being conformed to the image of Jesus, God's dear Son, to be eventually like Him.

References:

Bruce, F.F. *1 and 2 Corinthians* - The New Century Bible Commentary; **Dunn, D.G.** *1 Corinthians*



CSG CHURCH

Autumn Light Party

WHEN: 1ST NOVEMBER (SUNDAY)
HALLOWEEN ALTERNATIVE

WHERE: YOUTH CENTRE 4:00PM
(20 NARCOT ROAD)

WHAT: CRAFTS & GAMES
SNACKS & SAUSAGES



**FAIR TRADE : LIVING THE BIBLE
THE MISSION IS STILL VALID AND THE WORK IS NOT
FINISHED**



NEW PRODUCT

DIVINE HAZELNUT TRUFFLE CHOCOLATE 41% COCOA

In addition to the wonderful range of Divine chocolate bars I am now stocking yummy hazelnut truffle chocolate. Co-owned by Ghanaian farmers every possible ingredient is fair trade and every farmer fairly paid and you get a wonderful treat to enjoy.

FAIR TRADE VS GLOBAL WARMING

The searing heat and raging fires across Europe and North America this summer has brought global warming very much into the spotlight. (Don't miss the screening of People's Emergency Briefing on 24th September). Fair trade is an important element in fighting global warming by guaranteeing fair prices and extra funds (Fair trade Premium), enabling vulnerable farmers to afford climate-smart agriculture and crop diversification without the need for deforestation, and to reduce chemical usage to minimize the carbon footprint of global supply chains. I have seen coffee and tea plants planted in the jungle in Peru along-side native plants providing a diverse growing area giving sustenance to animals and insects. I have also seen the monoculture of palm oil plantations where there are no insects and no light creating a need

for chemicals to encourage the plants to grow. Fairtrade and the climate crisis intersect through several core initiatives designed to protect the environment and support agricultural communities.

Because small-scale farmers in developing nations contribute the least to global emissions but suffer the most from climate-related disasters, the Fairtrade minimum price acts as a safety net. This financial stability allows farmers to invest in sustainable farming instead of clearing protected forests for extra income.

If like me you tire of hearing about the record breaking days without rain and the record-breaking temperatures but hear little from the world's politicians about combating the issues, then buying fair trade is in a small way enabling us to act for ourselves and grow the fair trade market.

FAIR TRADE STALL

Once a month there is a fair trade stall at the back of Church. I regularly have new products so please come and have a look. By so doing you are helping our neighbours across the world who are working hard to make life better for themselves and their children. Future dates are: September 27th and October 25th.

Also in Chalfont St Peter Church Hall on the first Wednesday of the month, 10.00am to 12.00noon. (Great homemade cake as well!) Next stall September 2nd

REDUCE YOUR PLASTIC WASTE

Don't forget we are able to supply refills in reused plastic bottles. We stock washing up liquid, toilet cleaner and laundry liquid, all from Bio D, a leading supplier of environmentally friendly products manufactured in the UK.

FOOD BANK

Supplies are still required by the food bank, demand remains high and we continue to supply them so please do not stop your generous donations.

“A poor man’s field may produce an abundant harvest but injustice sweeps it away.” Proverbs 13 v 23

Margaret Dykes

07919314461 margaretrdykes@btinternet.com



This summer’s hot weather and hosepipe ban have reminded us that climate change is no longer something happening somewhere else – it’s affecting our own gardens and community.

The good news is that across our village there are already many individuals and groups making a positive difference – from supporting the Community Fridge and organising littler picks to creating wildlife friendly gardens, reducing waste, sharing skills, helping neighbours and speaking up for positive environmental change.

CSG CAN aims to bring these efforts together, celebrate what’s already happening and encourage even more community action. We will be screening **The People’s Emergency Briefing** on

Thursday 24th September at 7.00 for 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall in School Lane. To book contact Brionywickenden@hotmail.com

As the screening of the People's Emergency Briefing will remind us, while the challenges we face are significant, the solutions begin with people, communities and hope. None of us can do everything, but all of us can do something. Whether you can spare an hour to help with a local project, share an idea or simply make one small change at home, every action matters. Together, CSG CAN can build on the great work already happening in our village and help create a greener, stronger and more connected village for everyone.

When people come together, remarkable things can happen!

Margaret Dykes

Changing the Eco Guard

"Phew, what a Scorcher!" So ran the old headline from the long, hot summer of 1976. Looking back we can now say: *"You ain't seen nothing yet!"* Yes, that was one freak year, but our recent ferocious summers have been more menacing. So has something changed? Could there really be a climate emergency?

The Anglican Communion answers this question with a resounding "Yes". Its fifth and newest Mark of Mission is entitled "Treasure" and focuses on caring for our planet, directing the church *"to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth."*

Our church is now looking for someone new to lead on the Fifth Mark of Mission.

The Climate Crisis and loss of biodiversity are the Mission's key concerns, but it connects too to caring for our worst affected human neighbours - often already poor, living in hot or low-lying countries and least responsible for the change impacting them.

Beyond that, the Mission also extends to our neighbours in the animal kingdom with whom we share God's world. He gave us stewardship over them but tells us we have much to learn from these, our brothers and sisters in creation: *"...ask the animals and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you... or let the fish of the sea inform you..."* (Job 12:7-8).

But what can the UK do when we are so small a country? Well, every little helps but, more importantly, in at least doing something the UK becomes better placed to lead and persuade other nations to follow suit. We can choose to respond too, even here in our small Parish Church. We can incorporate care for creation into our worship, into our church and churchyard fabric, into our wider decision making, even into our witness and public discourse.

Whether internationally, nationally or here in Chalfont St Giles, fighting climate change might feel hopeless, but (not for the first time) I'll use a quote from Harper Lee's *"To kill a Mockingbird"*: *"Courage is not a man with a gun in his hand. It's knowing you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what. You rarely win, but sometimes you do."*

About five years ago, I was asked to lead here on Eco Church and - with much help from others - we achieved the Eco Church Silver Award. However I feel I have now taken this as far as I can and have stepped down: it's time to change the Eco Guard and **the church is now looking for someone new and fresh to lead on the Fifth Mark of Mission and, through this article, is inviting you to consider whether this is something you would like to do.**

The role allows significant freedom as to how to set about the task and the holder could discuss approaches with the wider church, including the Rector and the PCC. For example: they could work towards the Eco Church Gold Award or simply consolidate on our Silver Award, ensuring we do not slip back, whilst perhaps trying

some new ideas on the side; or they could set aside the Eco Church structure completely and take action on whatever most speaks environmentally to them and/or others in our church; or they could look to engage with local environmental community groups... there are many other options besides! The key is for our church to be engaged with this important issue, the how is up for discussion.

The holder would definitely not be alone. A fully fledged Eco church can only be achieved if the whole church works on it together, not by delegating the task to one person. While the role can include taking actions, it will primarily be about communicating the Fifth Mark of Mission across the church, its leadership and committees and discussing and agreeing with them how they respond. This way, care for creation stands at the forefront of the church's communal mind in everything it does, alongside the other Marks of Mission (with which there is much overlap anyway).

If you or someone you know (or even a small group of you jointly) might be interested in this key role, please feel free to contact either myself for an informal chat or Cathy Langdale (the chair of the Worship Committee) for further background. Or have a word with the Rector on his return.

Yes, addressing the climate crisis is individually, communally and globally very daunting, but we in Chalfont St Giles Parish Church can play our part. Along with that inspirational line on courage from Harper Lee, as Christians I believe we also have the encouragement of St Paul's famous quote on hope and faith in Philippians 4.13: *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens ..."* and so can our church, our country and the world.

Keith Wood-Smith
keithwoodsmith@gmail.com

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever! 1 Chronicles 16:34

**Harvest
Service**
Chalfont St Giles
Parish Church

20 SEPT

SUNDAY

9:30AM

All Gifts Welcome

Donations to:

Chiltern Food Bank &

All Together Community Initiative

Specific Food Requested

- ❖ Fruit in jelly
- ❖ Tinned chicken
- ❖ Tinned mince beef
- ❖ Tinned vegetables
- ❖ Tinned soup
- ❖ Savoury biscuits
- ❖ Personal toiletries
- ❖ Deodorant
- ❖ Toilet roll
- ❖ Rice (500g)
- ❖ Chocolate
- ❖ Breakfast cereal
- ❖ Sardines
- ❖ UHT milk
- ❖ Long life juice
- ❖ Instant coffee
- ❖ Nappies
- ❖ Small washing powder
- ❖ Fresh fruit & vegetables welcome
- ❖ Pre order of Fair Trade harvest package to your chosen value from M Dykes to collect on the day
- ❖ Fair Trade pre-made bags available on 20th for £10, £20 or £25

RSCM Music Sunday 14th June 2026

This year once again we chose to celebrate the role of music in our worship by adding an informal concert after our morning communion service. Coffee time was very lively as we also had the beautiful work for Bucks Art Week surrounding us .

After our refreshments at 11.15 we sat down for a short hymn practice, led by Chris Weaver. He focused on a favourite modern hymn, No 802, 'There is a Higher Throne', with words and music by Kristyn and Keith Getty. Do find it on YouTube if you can as we shall sing it regularly at the end of our services of Holy Communion.

We like to invite contributions from other music makers in the congregation, such as sharing a worship song on guitar. So we're giving you a year's notice!

Then the choir introduced a new anthem which we had just begun working on. It's an arrangement by Mack Wilberg for the Tabernacle Choir of New York of the hymn, *It is Well with my Soul*. The moving story of the writing of this hymn, which was read to us by Elaine Barker, who sings Alto in the choir, can be found following this account.

RSCM Music Sunday is a national event to raise the profile of music in our churches and to raise additional funds for the superb work of the RSCM. They are well run from headquarters in Salisbury. The energetic director, Hugh Morris, has been a Director of Music at Peterborough Cathedral. There is an education team and a publishing team and together they help to create and patent new resources to be used in English speaking churches around the world. They offer help to churches both large and tiny. They run links to degrees in church music and support for training choirs, teaching the organ and much, much more.

This year the RSCM launches a Choir Project, which intends to start more than 200 new parish church choirs as hubs and to recruit many more choristers to a programme of church music linked to Christian teaching. The ambition is to find new followers of Christ through this very engaging route. The Church of England has given a sum of £400,000 for this. To read more, please find the RSCM website. Our choir is enrolled as a group member and they warmly welcome individual members.

Thank you for your generosity which raised £271 for this wonderful work.

Cathy Langdale
Music Director

It Is Well With My Soul

This is the story behind the writing of the lyrics, read at a performance of this beautiful arrangement by Mack Wilberg, given by the Tabernacle Choir in New York.

Life can be so unpredictable—joys and sorrows, beautiful blessings and distressing difficulties can come unexpectedly. Our life's dreams and plans can change in an instant. We all know this to be true. So how can we find peace amid such turbulence?

Horatio Spafford knew something about life's unexpected challenges. He was a successful attorney and real estate investor who lost a fortune in the great Chicago fire of 1871. Around the same time, his beloved four-year-old son died of scarlet fever. Thinking a vacation would do his family some good, he sent his wife and four daughters on a ship to England, planning to join them after he finished some pressing business at home. However, while crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the ship was involved in a terrible collision and sank. More than 200 people lost their lives, including all four of Horatio Spafford's precious daughters. His wife, Anna,

survived the tragedy. Upon arriving in England, she sent a telegram to her husband that began: “Saved alone. What shall I do?”

Horatio immediately set sail for England. At one point during his voyage, the captain of the ship, aware of the tragedy that had struck the Spafford family, summoned Horatio to tell him that they were now passing over the spot where the shipwreck had occurred. As Horatio thought about his daughters, words of comfort and hope filled his heart and mind. He wrote them down, and they have since become a well-beloved hymn:

*When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll—
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to know
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Perhaps we cannot always say that everything is well in all aspects of our lives. There will always be storms to face, and sometimes there will be tragedies. But with faith in a loving God and with trust in His divine help, we can confidently say, “It is well, it is well with my soul”

And this work was sung by the church choir on Music Sunday, 14th June 2026

Cathy Langdale





St Giles Consort

directed by Dominic McGonigal

THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

An hour of choral music about the Birds of the Air, the Beasts of the Field, the Flowers and the Trees with readings from Milton's *Paradise Lost*, and poems by John Clare, William Blake and John Keats.

Chalfont St Giles Parish Church

Sunday 13th September at 6.00pm

Refreshments will be served

*Retiring collection in aid of the Berks, Bucks & Oxon
Wildlife Trust*

Choir Outing to St Paul's Cathedral

Saturday 16th May 2026

It's been a while since our choir had a good outing. So when I saw that St Paul's Cathedral was hosting an afternoon of "Come and Sing Evensong" we rushed to enrol.

We were a party of 10 comprising Colin and Elaine Barker with their son, Samuel, Lynda Weiss, Julia Lord, Paula Beesley and our three senior trebles, Eloisa Beesley, Sophia Singleton and Elizabeth Chapman. We travelled by tube and had time to enjoy our packed lunches in the garden behind the Dome.



Then we and some 200 others enjoyed a lively rehearsal led by Andrew Carwood, the musical director of THE choir at St Paul's. We loved the introit by Amy Beach (1867 – 1944), *Peace I leave with you*, and the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Charles Wood. Down in the basement we had tea and admired the tombs of many

notable figures..... After Evensong we simply crossed the road to enjoy a well-earned meal at Pizza Express.

We hope to go again and to enjoy other outings.

Cathy Langdale,
Choir Director



Remembrance Service

Chalfont St. Giles Parish Church

8th November

10am

Service in the church

10:50am

Service at the High Street

War Memorial together with Scouts & Guides

11:30am

Uniformed service
in the church



Lest we forget their service & sacrifice



*Women's
Breakfast*

Special Guest Speaker
Caroline Sence
from Restore Hope

Saturday
10th October
9:30AM

Reading Room
£5 donation requested

Please RSVP by
Sign up in church or
QR code



Or emailing:
saintgileschurch@gmail.com



MILTON'S COTTAGE



John Milton and America - Celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026

Milton and America make natural companions. Americans have been reading his work from as early as 1698, when the Corporation of the City of New York purchased *Paradise Lost* and some of his prose works for its library. Milton is quoted on the walls at the Library of Congress, while the Morgan Library houses the only surviving manuscript of *Paradise Lost*.

As one of England's greatest republicans, Milton's works may well have found their spiritual home in the USA. When Americans read their Constitution they hear echoes of Milton, because his political tracts, such as *Eikonoklastes* and *Areopagitica*, were an inspiration for the Founding Fathers as they were writing it. As Professor Nigel Smith at Princeton says "When we hear the opening lines of our constitution, we hear Miltonic tones through the voices of Jefferson and Adams".

Inspiration for the First Amendment came from *Areopagitica*, Milton's speech to the Westminster Parliament arguing against pre-publication censorship. This amendment enshrines the four basic liberties of freedom of thought, freedom of speech, freedom of religious following and assembly and freedom of the press. 400 years after his time all these issues are of great controversy in our world today.

Both Adams and Jefferson read Milton throughout their lives, and he appears more than any other poet in Jefferson's commonplace book. The influence he exerted on them has led his biographers,

Gordon Campbell and Thomas N Corns, to claim: "In intellectual terms, Milton is one of the Founding Fathers of America."

Today, many US visitors make the transatlantic literary pilgrimage to Milton's Cottage, his only surviving residence, and the place where he completed his epic masterpiece *Paradise Lost*. It has been open to the public since 1887, making it one of the oldest writer's house museums in the world.

*Give me the liberty to know, to
utter and to argue freely
according to my conscience,
above all other liberties.*
John Milton

Plaque on the wall of The
Chicago Tribune Building

Paradise Maintain'd Fund • Founders: The Earl & Countess Howe

Milton's Cottage Trust (CIO), 21 Deanway, Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, HP8 4JH UK
DD : +44 7703 572344 • partnerships@miltonscottage.org • www.miltonscottage.org
Charity registration number: 1163039

Quiz Corner

Quite difficult last time but Mel and Chris always manage to get an entry in. This time the topic is capital cities of countries. It shouldn't be too difficult as I have remembered to put number of letters this time to help you.

1. A recording of Gardeners' World, possibly? (10)
2. Latin Jerry followed by English Tom (6)
3. Tears rising and a heavyweight (10)
4. Publicity and shivery fever (6)
5. Are you getting more confused? (4)
6. Sounds like the way to the cove (6)
7. Sort out an easier bonus (6,5)
8. Map. See! (4)
9. Morning male (5).....
- 10.....Or just a man with an accent (4)

Answers to the last quiz: 1. Madison 2. Baton Rouge 3, Salt Lake City 4. Wyoming 5. Cheyenne 6. Concord 7. Santa Fe 8. Connecticut 9. Boise 10. Harrisburg



PACK A SHOEBOX

SEND GOOD NEWS & GREAT JOY AROUND THE WORLD

Please bring filled shoeboxes to
Chalfont St. Giles Parish Church
By November 22nd at 12:00pm

- Take an empty medium sized shoebox, and wrap the box and lid separately in colourful wrapping paper
- Attach the appropriate gender and age label available at the back of church
- Fill your shoebox with a selection of fun toys, hygiene items and school supplies
- If possible, include one or two extra special items you know a child will love such as a doll, cuddly toy or deflated football with pump
- Include your project **donation of £5** to cover costs for shipping
 - If you would like to follow your box's journey give online and put the printed bar code in the box (website link below)
- Personalise your shoebox by including a hand written note and a photograph of yourself, your group or your family. You may also like to pray for the child that will receive your gift
- Return your box to church by 12:30pm on Sunday 22nd November 2026
- **Please remember no liquids, toothpaste, or sweets**
- More information and gift ideas can be found on the website at scan this QR code
- If you would like to pack a box online for £25 there is a link at the bottom of the webpage connected to this QR code



My Impressions of Padstow

I recently spent a week at Padstow. It is probably 40 years since I was last there but I was very pleasantly surprised by its compact nature with coffee shops, bakeries (for Cornish pies), pubs and excellent restaurants. Many of these are London class such as Paul Ainsworth's and obviously Rick Stein's who is not now part of the local community but whose first wife Jill now runs the business.



Even the clothes shops weren't just local brands.

The ferry to Rock was also a very pleasant surprise, but what also took me by surprise was the number of dogs as all visitors seemed to have at least two.

My interest, being more than partial to a good pub and local beers, was diverted during the World Cup, which was at the quarter final stage while I was there, by the fact that while they were supporting England the flag flown in the pubs was not the flag of St George but the Cornish flag of St Piran, which is the same design but white on a black background. I then realised that many of the churches also flew this same flag, although some flew them both.

St Piran was supposedly expelled from Ireland for his religious views, tied to a millstone and thrown over a cliff. He subsequently, and miraculously, landed on a Cornish beach, near what is now Perranporth, where he lived as a hermit on the dunes. He supposedly discovered tin by accident when his boiling pot melted



and the Cornish flag represents the molten tin against a background of black ore. The myth that he died aged 200, (even living on Cornish pasties!) is a bit hard to take, but the fact that he died inebriated falling down a well sounds very likely.

I have been aware that Cornish people have felt disenfranchised by the rest of England for many years while retaining allegiance to English Royalty and I began to embrace their situation and even felt a pang of jealousy that they are very happy with this perceived independence.

Padstow is a long way from London, though, and probably less appealing when it's raining rather than the 30 degrees we had while there.

Roger Foord

Friends of the Parish Church AGM

Please note that the AGM of the Friends of the Parish Church will be held in Church on Thursday 24 September starting at 7:30pm. The business will include reports from the Officers, summaries of what has been happening and the election of Officers and the Committee for the coming year. We think that the AGM business will conclude by about 8pm and be followed by cheese and wine or coffee.

Peter Healy, a Trustee of Amersham Museum, will then give an illustrated talk on 'Amersham in the 60s & 70s'.

All are welcome to the whole meeting or just the refreshments and talk but only members may vote.

Richard (Bolton)

Secretary of The Friends of Chalfont St Giles Parish Church
Registered Charity No. 1008935

LENT LUNCHESES

They are due to be held from 12th February. I am due to be away in January, so I will most probably be asking before Christmas if you are willing to volunteer. Please watch out for my emails! Thank you
Kathleen Martin

A Churchwatch Story

It all started when I picked up a hitchhiker in Little Chalfont as I was driving home. I have never picked up a hitchhiker in my life before (it's not really a sensible thing to do) but this was an elderly woman trudging along Cokes Lane with her thumb raised and something made me pull up and offer her a lift.

She told me that she wanted to go to Chalfont St Giles, specifically the church which she believed opened on a Tuesday. She had come from Central London, where she was staying, to Chalfont and Latimer station and had hoped to catch a bus there. Faced with the harsh reality of public transport in this part of the world and presumably not noticing the taxi office she had decided to walk. She was anxious to see the church and also visit the churchyard as several members of her family were, she believed, buried there. She was called Marie and was from Tauranga in New Zealand and was a nursery teacher. (Luckily I had not assumed she was from Australia which is an unfortunate error I have made in the past.) I told her that the church was no longer open to visitors on Tuesdays but that she was lucky enough to have run into one of the relatively few people who could actually open the church for her, show her around and help her look for the graves.

I took her into church to show her around and she met Janelle who joined enthusiastically in the search for the right graves. In the folder we tracked down the graves of Charles and Mary Goodman and she was confident that these were the right names and dates. We then trekked round the churchyard until we found the Goodmans' grave though as it was covered with thick ivy it was difficult to see any inscription on it. However she took some photos and was absolutely delighted at the success of her mission.

Before I took her back to Little Chalfont she had a brief wander round the village centre and took some photos. She said that there was a story in her family that one of her forbears had been struck by lightning while crossing the green to post a letter. (Does this sound familiar to anyone?) As this was probably about 150 years ago it is a bit difficult to verify but it's still a good story.

I was really pleased to be able to help her out and I said I would write about her visit in the magazine and then email her a copy which delighted her even more. She's in the Visitors' Book as Suzanne-Marie Duncan from Tauranga, NZ, entry dated 18th August. So if you're on Churchwatch and visitors are a bit thin on the ground it may be a good idea to go out and find them for yourself!

Rachel Leonard

Parish Magazine May 1899

There has fallen into my hands recently, a result of Tony Ferguson rummaging about in the space above the kitchen, a copy of the Parish Magazine dating from May 1899. It is a very interesting and educational read.

It begins with the information pertaining to St Giles which occupies the first five pages. This is full of useful information such as the schedule of services – Holy Communion at 8 am on two Sundays in the month and at noon on the other two – plus the other services and all the hymns. There is a report on the Easter Vestry which is the equivalent of the APCM and a detailed account of the church accounts for the previous year. Offertory collections had totalled £57 9s 6d: the Clerk had been paid £20 and the organist £16. The church had been insured against fire and this had cost £3 15s for £5000 of cover. Sacramental bread had cost 5s 11½d and wine 18s. Fuel for heating had cost £7 18s 2d. All this at a time when a pound had the purchasing power of £166 today.

The other local information is about the board schools in the village where 80 boys, 95 girls and 106 infants were being educated. The schools have been inspected for their teaching of religious knowledge by the diocese and have been found to be providing a good level. The schools' accounts are also given in detail.

There is however no mention of the names of the rector, churchwardens or any of the other people holding posts in the parish. I presume everyone knew who they were.

The rest of the magazine is syndicated and contains much useful information.; "The History of a Cup and Saucer" (even less interesting

than it sounds) and chapters 11,12 and 13 from an improving novel about a vicar who is at death's door after falling off a ladder (at least I think that's what happened – not having read the first ten chapters I can't be sure) and a small child who is dying from the effects of a house fire which appears to be the direct result of her father being in the pub at the time. It is very melancholy reading. For those interested the vicar lives and the child dies, and the child's father never goes to the pub again.

There are also instructions on how to give a bed bound patient a sponge bath and a recipe for Swiss Pudding which may appear in a future magazine. There is a section called "Sunday Questions" which demands very thorough knowledge of the Bible and "Puzzle Corner" which contains a number of word puzzles. There is a list of prize winners of previous months but Chalfont St Giles does not seem to have distinguished itself.

All in all it's a good read and gives me something to aspire to.

The Editor

MISSION TO SEAFARERS

As many of you know, we celebrate **Sea Sunday in October**. This year it will be on **Sunday 18th October**. I plan to sell the Mission's Christmas cards at all services that Sunday.

In his latest Blog the Secretary General, The Ven Dr Peter Rouch, says: "Modern trade has become exceptionally good at moving things, but often less attentive to the experience of those who move them." There are further details in the latest edition of the Flying Angel News (FAN) (which is in the porch) of the difficulties in the Strait of Hormuz, where 20,000 seafarers have been impacted.

Please show your support to those who do their best to get our essential goods to us – especially as so many are working in such dangerous and unpredictable times and places.

Kathleen Martin

Parish Directory

Parochial Church Council (area code: 01494)

Chair	The Rector	
Hon. Secretary	Peter Miles	872465
Hon. Treasurer	John Southworth	875500
Electoral-Roll Officer	Kathleen Martin	870 704
Stewardship Recorder	Chris Neville	873 457
Pastoral-Care Co-ordinator	Margaret Carey	762 341
Chatterbox organiser	Marion Miles	872465
Messy Church Co-ordinator	Dan Beesley	211 738
YZone (group for 11-15s) Co-ordinator	Dan Beesley	
Church Watching	Tony Ferguson	07769 361 795
Reading-Room Bookings	Richard Silman	07786194695
	Janelle Stevenson	07771423553
Church Choir	Cathy Langdale	581 385
	csgchurchchoir@gmail.com	
Bell-Ringing Master	John Davidge	873 325
Flower Guild	Sylvia Morrison– Moore	
	07798766322	
Fair Trade	Margaret Dykes	07919314461
Friends of the Parish Church	Claire Long	875 445
Safeguarding Officer	Victoria Neil	
	victoriacneil42@gmail.com	
Parish Magazine Editor	Rachel Leonard	872791

Email articles:: stgileschurchmagazine@gmail.com



Loving People
Transforming Lives
Glorifying God