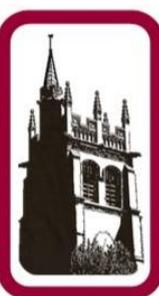


# ALL SAINTS'



# ALIVE

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone

## Escape or engage?

Dear Friends,

I have a sort of understanding with my mother in Holland that we both watch *Escape to the Country* regularly, evaluating the pros and cons of the properties which are selected by the programme's research team to fit the needs of those who have asked for their help. It's so useful to have iPlayer so that I can watch when I can, usually to unwind at the end of the day.

The whole idea of escaping is very attractive when we encounter issues. People are often portrayed at the beginning of "Escape" near a busy main road, with noise and fumes – Gascoyne Way anyone? - longing for a quieter, healthier life. It's a very understandable feeling, especially when many people are no longer tied to an office. Regrettably, this tendency has driven prices up, creating an extra area of tension and concern. And now we have the increases in the cost of living wherever we live, so one hopes that people haven't over-committed financially in making their escape.

People sometimes suggest that religion is just a form of escape, and I admit that it is justified if we allow ourselves to move into a private spiritual world. Jesus always remained engaged with the world around him, showing his love and concern for the poor and the sick, and in disregarding the personal cost of suffering in dying to take away our sins and make us right with God. He would sometimes seek to escape to commune with God the Father, to strengthen his commitment to God's way of love and sacrifice, but he did not seek to escape when needy people sought help and especially when bearing witness to the truth lead him to the anguish of the cross.

Faith in God is not escape, it means engagement with the world, which can be costly. Yet Jesus said that we should beware

that we do not gain the world and lose our soul. In a world where so much is changing, we need faith and hope to carry us forward and to live an authentic Christian life. It is not about escape but about balance, balance between the complications and costs of life and the priority of loving and caring for others. The world and God's kingdom must be held together, with a trust and confidence that God is with us, and that we can and should seek His presence in the midst of all that we encounter in this troubled world.

With love and prayers, Jo

## Coffee Morning/Bike 'n Hike 10<sup>th</sup> September

All Saints' Welcomes Everyone



ALLSAINTS  
HERTFORD

## COFFEE MORNING AND TOWER OPEN DAY

**SATURDAY  
10 SEPTEMBER 2022  
10.00am - 1.00pm**

**Stalls: Homemade Cakes,  
Produce in Aid of Pakistan Flood  
Relief, Craft Stall.  
Refreshments and Light Lunches**

See our Magnificent Bells and  
Fantastic Views of Hertford.

Adults: £2.00. Children Under 16: £1.00  
Not Recommended for Children Under Age 7.

**TOWER OPEN: 10.00am - 2.00pm. Closed Shoes must be worn.**

ALL SAINTS CHURCH - Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY  
[www.allsaintshertford.org](http://www.allsaintshertford.org)



Bike 'n Hike is the main annual fundraising event for Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust. By taking part bikers and hikers, who ask people to sponsor them, raise essential funds to repair churches and chapels which are important places for local communities. Each

church involved keeps half of the funds raised by its supporters, while the remainder plus gift aid goes to the Trust to be awarded as grants to help maintain these historic buildings. Martin Bird and Kate Glover will be participating to raise as much as they can for the Trust and for All Saints'. There are 36 churches listed in the Hertford area, and more if they take in Hoddesdon and Knebworth.

Participants can call in to have their forms signed any time between 9:00 and 5:00. During this period, our church will be open, and tea and coffee and light lunches will be served. There will also be a Coffee Morning, Cake Sale and Produce Stall which will run from 10:00 to 1:00. Fiona's Produce Stall will be in aid of the flood victims in Pakistan.

For those wishing to enjoy an aerial view of Hertford, the church tower will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you plan to climb the tower, please take into account that the steps are uneven and there is no handrail.

Parents must accept total liability if they wish to take their children up. Each child must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Closed shoes must be worn.

Many thanks to those who have volunteered to help during what will be a long but enjoyable day with plenty of time for chatting, catching up with friends and meeting people who are passing through as they explore the churches of Hertford, as well as the Hertford community coming to go up the tower or to enjoy the Coffee Morning.

## ECH 24<sup>th</sup> September



The second All Saints' Environment Climate Hope Day takes place between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Saturday 24 September 2002.

The rationale of the day is three-fold:

- to celebrate the environment and wildlife around us, and encourage wider knowledge and experience of it.
- to stress how vital it is to accept the reality of climate change and its effects, encouraging lifestyle changes and a more thoughtful approach to the way we live.
- to engender a sense of hope that it is still possible to mitigate against the dire consequences that currently face us.

All the action will be in the church or churchyard, with stalls set up for sharing information and ideas and having conversations. Throughout the day there will be talks with time for questions, and a panel discussion to end the day. The full programme will soon be available at <https://www.allsaintshertford.org/ech.php>

There will also be refreshments available all day, with light lunches, tea and coffee, cakes, produce and plants on sale. The Produce stall will be in aid of the victims of the Pakistan floods. Please tell your friends, and come along and enjoy the day!

### Pop-up Café



Beginning on Wednesday September 28<sup>th</sup>  
Every Wednesday during term time

We will be selling Drinks and Refreshments  
from 3.00 – 4.30 pm in All Saints

Children's Corner with toys

### Soundbites in Autumn Term

Our Autumn Concert Series will start on 28<sup>th</sup> September and runs until November 30<sup>th</sup>.

The first concert will be given by Open House Music, a new ensemble of critically-acclaimed musicians:

Rachel Chaplin (oboe),  
Jane Gordon (violin),  
Robert de Bree (oboe/recorder) and  
Jan Zahourek (double bass).

They will present a programme of reimagined baroque music, including music by Bach, Scarlatti and Purcell, interwoven with their own contemporary inventions.

The programme for this and October, with detailed notes, is now available on our website at <https://www.allsaintshertford.org/concerts.php>



*'For the needy shall not always be forgotten, and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.' Psalm 9:18*

This year, the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal will help change the lives of people in Mozambique who have been traumatised and displaced by conflict. Having fled to safety, life still isn't easy, and many are losing hope. Your support will help on-the-ground, local church partners to reach the most vulnerable; helping to change lives, transform communities and show God's love where it is needed most.

### **Background**

Located in south-eastern Africa, Mozambique is a country with a population of around 31 million people (World Bank, 2020). Despite gaining independence from Portugal in 1975, Mozambique became caught up in a brutal civil war that only ended in 1992. The war destroyed lives and livelihoods, with more than 820,000 people having fled their homes and becoming internally displaced. More than 12 million people live below the poverty line.

Life is hard. Since 2017, northern Mozambique has been under the reign of terror of a military insurgence group, where it is estimated that more than 2,000 people have been killed and

thousands more have had to flee their homes. The country has faced terrorist attacks, political unrest, food shortages, and an onslaught of natural disasters including droughts, monsoons, floods and cyclones. Families and communities have suffered greatly from this relentless conflict.

This is an urgent situation, and we must do something today. As the tragedy continues to unfold in Mozambique, we cannot let it be forgotten.

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/faith/bish-ops-annual-harvest-appeal/>

<https://youtu.be/bJf7HTG0ThU>

## **To be singing in All Saints is such a treat!**

I stood among the congregation recently as they sang the last group of favourite hymns that were in the services during the choir's holiday.

My word, did we sing! I loved hearing the phrases of wonderful poetry being effectively sung to fine tunes. Everyone seemed to take their breath in at the same time! It felt like being part of a well-organised team.

OK. So, not everyone knew everything (including me), but I could hear 2<sup>nd</sup> verses improving on 1<sup>st</sup> verses, and 3<sup>rd</sup> verses getting even more confident. What a treat to share in this way of worshipping.

We who sing in this way know how good it is for us. Science has noted that it helps our hearts and lungs and brains to function well, but what about our general happiness and wellbeing? Who hasn't gone home from a service with the last hymn still rattling along in their head?

*Mary Penny*

## **Making music as a child helps sharpen your mind**

The University of Edinburgh has recently published a paper based on long term

research (a group of 366 people born in 1936 remain, who have been tested regularly since 1947) which show a small but discernible lifetime improvement in cognitive ability amongst those who sang and/or learnt an instrument as a child. See <https://www.theguardian.com/education/2022/aug/29/playing-music-in-childhood-linked-to-a-sharper-mind-in-old-age-study-suggests>

So, if you have, or know someone who has, children/grandchildren/nephews/nieces/etc aged seven or over please speak to Martin Penny and find out how they can get this mental 'leg up' by joining our choir!

PS It probably helps whatever your age, so adults welcome too!

## What Killed the Whale?

12<sup>TH</sup> June 2022 – Channel 4, 9 pm.

"The final song of one sei whale wasn't an ethereal aria in an oceanic auditorium, but a pitiful belch on a concrete dock as its guts were cut open during a post-mortem. In the past five years there have been some 500 whale strandings in the UK, so while a beached whale is sadly not uncommon, this one was far from its normal migratory route. To discover its cause of death, the biologist Ella Al-Shamahi observes a specialist forensic team as they conduct a necropsy where she learns its blubber is an organic ledger of human pollution".



<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/what-killed-the-whale>

Some notes after seeing this programme:

This sei whale stranded near Edinburgh. It is a mammal of deep oceans and should never

have been in the North Sea. It proved to have high levels of industrial chemical pollutants in its blubber, PCBs, and DDT included. Its stomach was empty, it was starved and dehydrated. On examination of its 'ear bone', it could have been deaf in one ear from a virus infection that its immune system was too compromised to deal with. There was no immediate sign of entanglement in fishing gear, a source of many deaths of sea mammals. The age of this whale – fully mature.

I forget which pollutants they measured in the sei whale's blubber, other than PCBs and DDT, and of course DDT has been banned in much of the world for several decades. There was a bar code showing the levels of contamination and there were at least half a dozen principal industrial chemical pollutants. Whale poo plays an essential role in fertilising the oceans, and in feeding sea life. Whale carcasses do too.

There is a family group of orcas around the north of Scotland. It is diminishing in size – they have not produced a single calf in 25 years.

The seas are becoming more acidic. This affects all life, especially krill, a vital food source for all fish and sea mammals, as well as some birds. Krill has been moving north with global warming in the northern hemisphere as well as reducing in quantity in both hemispheres.

Fishing gear is now very advanced, and has been for years. Nylon ropes I believe came in first in the 1930s, and they take hundreds of years to rot away. Entanglement is a cause of many deaths: slow, struggling deaths. The sea bottom is scraped bare by trawling, killing or uprooting all life.

One RAY of HOPE – there is work going on off the west coast of Scotland to seed the sea bed with sea grass. This has been happening over the last two years, and it is producing forests of sea grass, which capture and store CO<sub>2</sub> more efficiently than rain forests, while also creating a good environment for fish stocks to grow and thrive. Seeds are placed in little hessian bags which can then be buried in the sea.

Fiona Earle

# Parish Diary for September 2022

## Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> (Giles)

11.00 am Holy Communion in Church  
7.30 pm All Saints Art

## Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> (Martyrs of Papua New Guinea)

5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

## Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> (Gregory the Great)

1.00 pm Wedding of James Brown and  
Hayley Branston

## Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am All the Family Service  
6.30 pm Choral Communion

## Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> (Allen Gardiner)

11.00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom

## Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> (Birth of BVM)

11.00 am Holy Communion in Church  
7.30 pm All Saints Art

## Friday 9<sup>th</sup> (Charles Lowder)

5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

## Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>

9.00 am- 5.00 pm Bike n Hike  
10.00 am Coffee Morning and Tower Opening

## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion  
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

## Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> (John Crisostom)

11.00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom  
7.30 pm MU: "The Old Hertford All Saints'  
Church" *Jean Riddell*

## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> (Cyprian)

11.00 am Holy Communion in Church  
7.30 pm All Saints Art

## Friday 16<sup>th</sup> (Ninian)

5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

## Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> (Hildegard)

9.00 am Work Party

## Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Family Eucharist  
6.30 pm Choral Compline

## Monday 19<sup>th</sup> (Theodore)

6.30 pm Fellowship Group

## Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> (John Coleridge Patteson)

11.00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom

## Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>

11.00 am Morning Prayer  
7.00 pm Simon Balle ceremony  
7.30 pm All Saints Art

## Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>

5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

## Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>

10.00 am onwards Environment Climate Hope

## Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Family Eucharist with Holy Baptism  
6.30 pm Choral Evensong

## Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> (Vincent de Paul)

11.00 am Morning Prayer on Zoom

## Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> (Ember Day)

12 noon for 1.00 pm Soundbites  
Open House Music  
3.00 pm Pop-up Café  
7.30 pm PCC

## Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> (St Michael and All Angels)

11.00 am Holy Communion in Church  
7.30 pm All Saints Art

## Friday 30<sup>th</sup> (Jerome)

5.30 pm Choir Practices in Church

## OCTOBER

## Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> (Remegius)

1.00 pm Wedding of Chris Fryer & Anca Lupu

## Harvest Sunday/ Fifteenth after Trinity 2<sup>nd</sup>

10.00 am Family & Civic Service for Harvest  
12.00 noon Holy Baptism  
12.00 noon Harvest Lunch  
6.30 pm Choral Communion

## Contact information

[www.allsaintshertford.org](http://www.allsaintshertford.org)   : AllSaintsHertf

### Vicar

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