# All Saints' Croxley Green

Parish Magazine May 2023





# All Saints' Croxley Green

Sunday '	Worship in Church	Vicar:				
8am	Holy Communion BCP	Revd. Canon Miriam Mugan				
	(First Sunday of the Month)	The Vicarage WD3 3HJ	Tel: 772109			
9.45am	Parish Communion					
11.30am	Family Service	Honorary Priests:				
	(Third Sunday of the Month)	Revd. Dr Anne Shaw	Tel: 827663			
Weekda	vs	Assistant Curate:				
		Revd. Paul Palmer Tel:	07740871289			
	<b>y Prayers 8am in Church</b> Wednesday and Friday	Churchwardens				
Thursday	9.30am Holy Communion	Lyndon Palmer	Tel: 720856			
5	, in the second s	Anne Oke	Tel: 220782			
The Church is Open Daily for private prayer and meditation.		Assistant Churchwardens: Nik Bennett Tel: 773623				
		Ann Palmer	Tel: 720856			
		Sacristan:				
	ish Office is open for enquiries	Chris Oke	Tel: 220782			
	n to 12 noon, Tuesday to Friday.	Assistants: Mary Bittles	Tel: 771275			
hours.	hone available outside these Tel: 772109	Chris Fagan	Tel: 720319			
	dministrator: Judith Man	<b>Parochial Church Council:</b> Secretary: Chris Fagan				
Website:	www.croxleygreenallsaints.org	v C	Tel: 720319			
Email:office@croxleygreenallsaints.org		Treasurer: Andrew Nobbs				
			Tel: 770039			
Magazine magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org		Hall hire email; hall@croxleygreenallsaints.org				



### **Revd. Canon Miriam writes:**

Dear Friends,

Although by the time you read this Easter will be a few weeks ago, I do want to thank everyone who was involved in the activities and services

over Holy Week and Easter. Your support enabled us to experience a spiritually rich Holy Week and a joyous Easter. Thank you also to Fran Bennett for the beautiful flowers both at the Altar of Repose on Maundy Thursday and on Easter Sunday, they were absolutely stunning.

I hope you are looking forward to the Coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May. We will be marking this occasion with a special Sunday morning service on 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Looking a bit further ahead to Ascension Day, which is on 18<sup>th</sup> May, we will be hosting the Deanery Ascension Day Service at 7.30pm in the evening. There is an opportunity for anyone who would like to form a choir to 'come and sing'. There will be a rehearsal on Monday 15th May at 7.30pm in Church. Do come and join us, you don't need to be able to read music. Alternatively come and be part of the congregation instead.

Ascension Day commemorates Jesus ascending into Heaven following his resurrection on Easter Day. It is the 40<sup>th</sup> day of Easter and ten days before Pentecost. (We can read about it in Luke 14 verses 44-53 and Acts 1 verses 6-14). These events bring Eastertide to its joyful conclusion as we celebrate Jesus' return to Heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

As we celebrate Jesus' ascension, we remember his promise, '*I am with you always*' (Matthew 28.20). For the disciples it must have a been a confusing departure, how could they possibly be able to share with others all that Jesus had taught them? How could they possibly do justice to the legacy that he had left them with?

The answer is that they cannot do it on their own which is why Jesus tells them to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit, which came ten days later . Acts 2 verses 1-21 records how the disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus called the 'Advocate' and 'Helper' (John 16.7). They were equipped with a new sense of boldness and certainty about all that they had learnt from Jesus. No longer would they be people cowering behind closed doors in fear of their life and uncertain of what to do. The Holy Spirit filled them with courage and confidence to go forth to different places and different countries witnessing and helping people to become followers of Jesus. It is thanks to their witness that we are here today. And today we are the ones who are called to witness to others about the life and love of God through Jesus. But we cannot do this on our own. We, like the disciples, need the Holy Spirit to equip us, to fill us and to inspire us. Our service on Pentecost Sunday (28th May) will celebrate and welcome the coming of the Holy Spirit. God has a purpose for each one of us no matter who we are, our educational background, gender, race, ability or age. It is a purpose that he longs for us to fulfil and will enable us to fulfil by the pouring out of his Holy Spirit. I wonder what God's plans are for you?

It is a year since we put together our new Mission Action Plan (MAP). We have made real progress in most of the areas we identified and we now need to look to building on what has been achieved through God's grace, and exploring where He might be drawing us to focus on in terms of our mission and ministry not only to those already a part of our Church but those who have not yet realised the love and calling that God has for them. To help us with this we are having a MAP Planning Day on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June. Time and venue are still to be confirmed but please pop this date in your diary, I would love to see you there because your thoughts and views are very important.

With my love and prayers

Miriam

### **Parish Register and Records**

BAPTISM

16<sup>th</sup> April 2023 Ruby Afia BOWEN

FUNERALS

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

Reg DEE aged 92 years



### **May Readings**

Sunday May 7 <sup>th</sup>	
5 Sunday of Easter	John 14 v 1-14

Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup> 6 Sunday of Easter

John 14 v 15-21

Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup> Ascension Day

Luke 24 v 44-end

Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> 7 th Sunday of Easter

John 17 v 1-11

Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup> Pentecost

John 20 v 19-23 or John 7 v 37-39



## **Sunday Coffee Charity**



Watford Mencap works with people with learning disabilities, their families and carers. They believe

that people with a learning disability have the right to enjoy equal opportunities and be valued as members of society. Watford Mencap currently has a service user and carer base of approximately 800 people. Although affiliated to Royal Mencap, Watford Mencap is an independent self-financing local charity supporting people with a learning disability in Watford, Three Rivers and Hertsmere. Services are currently provided by 117 staff and casual workers plus 117 volunteers.

Children And Young People's Services offer a wide range of fun and exciting activities for children and young people, whatever their learning disability. Their centre is fully accessible and has a playroom, sensory room, a chill-out room and a large soft-play area as well as an all-weather outdoor play area

Learning and Leisure Learning - new skills is an important part of life and they offer a wide range of learning activities including computing, cooking and gardening. These sessions are tailored to meet the needs of each group as well as their varying interests and abilities

Having Fun and Meeting People - their Learning and Leisure team offer a wide range of regular social events, which include meals out, canal trips, Top Golf, quiz suppers, music and dance, art and many sport activities. We also provide regular Clubs such as IT, craft, pool, bowling and fitness. These are supported by a great team of volunteers who also help run courses such as cookery, making friends and music workshops.

Right Support Services Supporting you in your home. Watford Mencap's Right Support Services support people with learning disabilities in many different ways, making sure they meet individual needs. We do this in partnership with families, other agencies and most importantly the person themselves. This is known as coproduction. You can find out about these services by contacting Mencap directly or by talking to a social worker. Volunteers are an integral part of the Watford Mencap team and help deliver services to a high standard. There are many different ways you can volunteer and support Mencap. Some volunteering opportunities are regular activities, but if you feel that you can't commit to something regularly they are always looking for volunteers for one off events.

Contacting Watford Mencap

If you would like to know more about Mencap then please contact them via:

E-mail: admin@watfordmencap.org.uk

Office opening hours are: Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 5.00pm Contact details are as follows: Watford Mencap 92a Langley Road Watford Hertfordshire WD17 4PJ Tel: 01923 713620



# Sheila Hiscock



It is with sadness that we inform you that Sheila Hiscock died on 14th April. Sheila was a regular member of our congregation.

A very gentle and compassionate person, she always had a smile and was very encouraging and supportive of the children and young people in Church. She was

really interested to see the drawings and crafts that they did during the services and would always support our young people when they were seeking sponsors to raise funds for various charities. We will miss her very much. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Sheila's funeral is on Thursday 11th May at 2.30pm at All Saints' Church.



# **Lent Prayer Buddies**

This was one of the 'Prayer Buddies' pairings during Lent.

Marjorie said, 'It's been lovely. I've now got two new friends under the age of 20!'

Nerys said, 'I've prayed for Marjorie all of Lent. She has been a great Prayer Buddy. It made me smile when she called me 'pet'. She is now my new friend.'



# **Intercessions on Palm Sunday**

We had different prayers and objects to look at for the Intercessions on Palm Sunday.

Nerys and Carys had a jug and a prayer about serving others:

### Dear God,

Thank you for the amazing teacher you give us in Jesus.

He humbled himself repeatedly to show us how to serve each other. Help us to follow his example and listen to your voice when you call us to serve.

Lord in your mercy.....



# **Palm Sunday Procession**



# The Journey round the Church.....told in pictures



# **Thoughts during Maundy Thursday**

The Church glowed with love. The chairs were in the round. At first it felt a bit too close but Sam reassured me. We played the instruments in the Gloria with vigour. We had a real proper Peace. It seemed strange that there felt so much love at such a sad time but then I guess Jesus said "Do not cry for me, cry for yourselves and your children." I was in the choir I hope I didn't spoil the service but I did my best and on the radio they said that music is a snapshot of time that can't be repeated whether it is right or wrong.

Then came the washing of the feet. I was very anti having my feet washed as I hate feeling out of control but again Sam encouraged me to do it. Miriam and Paul explained that by washing our feet it showed we allowed God's love in us and then we could pass it on to other people in different ways like helping a neighbour with shopping. I really felt the power of helplessness in receiving God's love. The power made me shake with fear.

I got a bit cross inside when God said he would kill people who didn't have a blood cross on their door. God loves everyone and forgives everyone. So why if God is trying to teach compassion does he kill people? Surely that is not a loving God, Jesus helps everyone, didn't God think, Why didn't the people have crosses on their door... They might never have known love at all.

But, I stopped being cross because we sang Brother, Sister let me serve you. Twice. I loved that.

It was coming to the end of the service and outside was becoming dusk. The love was massive in the Church. It felt like I'd been on a journey. The lights went down. David played a Taize chant on the piano and gradually, slowly, one by one we moved to the Garden of Repose where we were met by an awestruck sense of power. Tulips and Lilies leading up to the Altar like a medieval painting in 3D. The image I will never forget. It was magical with the candles flickering and the sense of peace. It put in me that Jesus will be ok even if things will get worse and he understands that. That is the power I will keep in my soul, that love triumphs over jealousy.

Alice Tims

### Christian Aid Week Sunday 14th May – Saturday 20th May



Christian Aid works with some of the world's most vulnerable communities to offer assistance to those living in countries devastated by droughts, flood and storms, to support refugees fleeing deadly violence, and

distributing food supplies and other lifesaving essentials to people in desperate need.

For most of you, your Christian Aid giving envelope will be delivered through your door during Christian Aid Week by kind volunteers from all the churches in Croxley Green.

You may not be aware but, as from last year, the Croxley Green Christian Aid Committee decided that we would not collect your envelope from your door. Instead there are several ways in which you can make your donation:

- you can deliver your filled envelope to a house in your own road. The house number will be on your envelope and the house will be displaying a Christian Aid Poster.
- there is a QR code on the envelope label that links to the Rickmansworth & Croxley Green group which some might prefer to use
- \* you can donate via the website https://www.christianaid.org.uk
- \* you can bring your envelope to Church or the parish office.

If you do not receive an envelope, there will be envelopes at the back of Church. Please feel free to take one and return to the Parish Office, bring to a service or post in the wall safe. You can always donate online if you wish.

All contributions will be so gratefully received, so please give as generously as you can.

Thank you so much

Fran Bennett and Anne Oke

# **May Prayer Diary**

Date	In our Church Family
1st	Lilian and Jenson Tsang
2nd	Vicky, Katherine, William and James Vandy
3rd	Derek Wakefield
4th	Mary Wong
5th	Michael Adam
6th	Shirley Barnes
7th	Jane Bates
8th	Sam Beard
9th	Nik and Fran Bennett
10th	Mary Bittles
11th	Shelagh and Tony Booth
12th	Rae Bowyer
13th	Ben, Michelle, Sanna and Sophie Brogden
14th	Kelly Buckle
15th	Alick and Hazel Burge

16th	Carole Chesterfield
17th	Brian and Jennifer Clemow
18th	Maureen Cliff
19th	Jane Colbourne
20th	Anne and David Dougans
21st	Kathryn and Jemima Duffy
22nd	Pamela Evans
23rd	Chris Fagan
24th	Shirley Ford
25th	Pat Foster
26th	Janet Francis
27th	Sylvia Furzey
28th	John Galloway
29th	Simon, Tracy, Ian and Charles Galloway
30th	Sarah Gardner
31st	Liz Gowshall



## Parish Nurse

How lucky we are in Croxley Green to have two Parish Nurses, Cathy and Ruth, who work tirelessly to try and ensure that the health and welfare needs of so many of our residents in Croxley are met.

People often ask the question 'Well what does a Parish Nurse do?' All Parish Nurses are registered nurses and are appointed or employed through a local church or a group of churches as in Croxley Green. 'Parish nursing is a way by which Christians have demonstrated their love of Jesus by providing holistic care to people in need, regardless of background.' Churches in Croxley Green have partnered with Parish Nursing Ministries UK, who help local churches and Christian organisation to appoint and support Parish Nurses who in turn support people and communities of all faiths and none towards whole person health care. This is care for the person's well-being incorporating body, mind and spirit rather than just a medical condition.

The work of our parish Nurses has been warmly endorsed by our local churches and existing health services including, hospital nurses and local GP practises. An important point about the Parish Nurse Service is that it will compliment but not duplicate services offered by existing NHS and social care agencies.

Parish Nurses are able to:

- offer a confidential\* space for conversation;
- promote health by encouraging everyone (whether they have a faith or not) towards healthy lifestyles;
- visit and spend time listening to people, giving informed reassurance where necessary;
- liaise with GP surgeries and staff (where consent is given to do so); help people to understand their medications/treatments;
- signpost towards appropriate agencies/support groups.
- Parish Nurses do not: preach or convert, charge for their services, put pressure on anyone to change their religion or join a particular church; give medical treatments or direct nursing care (e.g. dressings, injections); replace NHS or other health services. They are happy to pray for someone if asked to do so.

\*They will only share with statutory agencies if we believe someone to be at risk of harm.

The Parish Nurses can be contacted: Cathy 07562 515791 croxleyparishnursecathy@gmail.com Ruth 07305 084948 croxleyparishnurseruth@gmail.com

To find out more about the great work that Cathy, Ruth and their volunteers carry out and the differences they have made come along and meet them at a special service on Sunday 4th June at St Oswald's Church at 3.30pm where they will tell us more about their work and ways in which we can support them as a community.

To find out more information go to the website: https://www.croxleyparishnurse.org their annual report makes good reading.

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# Social and Fundraising Committee Diary

### Pimms and Hymns : Sunday 11th June

Would you like to sing some of your favourite hymns and enjoy a nice glass of Pimms? Then join us for 'Pimms and Hymns' on Sunday 11th June at 4pm.

Admission is free but this will be a fundraiser for the Hall Renovation Project so any donations will be welcome.

Further details will be available in next month's magazine but please put the date in your diary and start letting your friends and families know.



### **Croxley Revels : Saturday 17th June**

We will again be having our usual stall at Croxley Revels on Saturday 17th June and would be really grateful for help on the day to run the stall. There will be a sign up sheet in Church nearer the date.

### Saturday 15th July : Music Concert

Back by popular demand. As the concert last year was such a success, we are planning a Music Concert, with interval refreshments, on Saturday 15th July.



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Further details will be available soon but please put this date in your diary. Ann Palmer

# **Reg Dee**

Dad loved life. Some of you may be aware as he may have mentioned it once or twice that he'd been writing his memoirs. It's been fun talking to him as we put them together, and finding some clues as to where his many passions began.

His father was born in Jersey. At some point they moved back to where the family had originally come from around Stroud in Gloucestershire. He moved to Oxford aged 14 where he took up work in a timber yard and where he later met Dad's mother. She was one of five children. Dad often said how fond he was of her sister, his aunt Eva, while his uncles, the Church brothers, ran successful businesses – he recalled seeing adverts for them on the buses around the city. He mentioned that one of his uncles did woodwork in his shed at the bottom of the garden. As a young boy, on visits to Oxford, dad would go and watch him at work – he loved the sweet smell of pine shavings and said it may have been a factor in his later choice of career.

The family moved to Kilburn in London in 1921, mum, dad and daughter Phyllis with, as I understand it, Doris to follow soon after and Reg and twin brother Lennie completing the family in 1931. They moved on to a new build house on an estate in Perivale in 1937. At the age of 10, as the war threatened London, dad and Lennie were evacuated to Cornwall by train along the scenic coast of Devon – he especially remembered the track by the sea at Dawlish. They ended up in the village of Flushing, near Falmouth in Cornwall, where they were picked out of the crowd of children and taken to their new home – a huge and very grand baronial mansion on top of the hill owned by the Trefusis family. In the house itself there was an impressive collection of antique militaria, servants in attendance and the two young boys were treated to outings in a chauffeur-driven upright limousine. The grandeur created a lasting impression on him and some say he never got over it. Late in 1941, they returned home and continued their schooling until leaving at 14 to go out to work.

Obviously with war raging, many had been called up and wore their uniforms with pride. Dad was especially taken with the RAF uniform worn by brother-in-law Ted, and this, he said, prompted him to join the ATC – the Air Training Corps. Several memorable flights were taken in various aircraft, culminating in a loop the loop over the south coast in a Tiger Moth, which he never forgot, and which led to a boyish enthusiasm even in his late 80s for air shows and aircraft such as at the Shuttleworth Collection in Bedfordshire where he was often to be seen. Around this time, the late 1940's, he also took an interest in motorbikes, and tours followed, first Cornwall and then Wales and the Lake District. He and some biker friends formed the Periventure Club, and they'd ride out at weekends to motocross events to watch the skill of other riders, listen to great music and eat bacon butties among the trees. But it wasn't to last .

In what was a terrible year for the family in which his father cut off two fingers on a band saw at work and brother Lennie was diagnosed with schizophrenia, Dad caught the dreaded TB. He said he didn't know how his poor mother got through it all. He was hospitalised for 16 months and sadly had to give up for good his motorbikes and any ambitions of more flying. He turned to cars, his love of which may have begun with that Limousine in Cornwall. After passing his test he bought a Vauxhall Velux – a very grand car for the time which liked to consume far more petrol than Dad could afford to buy, and which was often abandoned at the side of the road awaiting fresh supplies. As the family grew up the cars got bigger: another Vauxhall, to be followed by a couple of ageing Peugeot estates. Some of you may remember that Dad once volunteered to be one of the drivers to take a church youth group for a holiday in Wales in one of these elderly Peugeots. On their return, as I recall, he was delighted to be given an award for 'best overtaking manoeuvre' - only tempered by him being the sole entry in the category of 'downhill with the wind behind you'. He moved on to Volvos and of course to his beloved SAABs which, again, he may have mentioned once or twice. He loved their power. He had a habit of reversing out of the drive and straightening up on the road, then flooring it, accelerating as hard as he could until just under 30 mph at which speed he'd then cruise sedately along to wherever he might be going. To be fair they were great cars and allowed him to follow another of his passions in some style and comfort – he loved to travel.

He toured the country either on holidays with mum or visiting the nation's auction rooms looking for provincial bargains. They went across the channel to France, driving around Brittany and Normandy

a couple of times. But it was the SAABs that led them to Sweden and actually the SAAB factory which became the starting point for some memorable, enjoyable and wide ranging Scandinavian tours, where they also made good and lasting friendships. Further fantastic tours around Europe followed with the U3A – University of the Third Age. He took many pictures on these trips and filled a whole large cupboard at home with carefully labelled albums. 4 In fact, during our chats about his memoirs and the places they'd been I became aware that one of his most used phrases was 'I have photos', of all his adventures and which also included images of plates of fine food they had encountered on the way. Nowadays anyone can snap a picture of a meal and instantly post it on social media. But Dad was a pioneer at this, taking a picture of his plateful, sending the film away to be developed, waiting two weeks for their return, and then sticking it in the album to show anyone who cared to see. And then there were trips further afield – to Canada for a prospective job interview and tour; he turned the job down because he realised in time that 'why on earth would you leave the V&A!', and to Vancouver with his great friend Leo. One of the bonds between Dad and Leo was another of his passions: sailing, which they enjoyed together on and around the Solent and later on a race from New England to Bermuda - only spoiled by bad weather and a seasick, nervous and inexperienced crew. They had to turn back. But it was another memorable experience nonetheless. I know this, because, he has photos. Dad's sailing began when he and colleagues at the V&A decided to start the V&A Sailing Club and build a boat in the basement there. After a while, the others lost interest and the half-built shell was sold. So Dad decided to join the fledgling Civil Service Sailing Association. He turned up at a meeting of the committee only to be asked if he would be Social Secretary. He said "You must be hard up!". They said "We are!". He agreed to do it for a year but ended up staying in post for fifteen years. It was a running joke in the family that he'd proudly say he'd been Secretary for many years and we would all with one voice say "That's because no-one else wants to do it". The truth is, though, he was good at it. He used the same skills later organising many outings to pubs for the lunch club at the U3A. Sailing adventures included many outings along the Essex and Suffolk coasts, across the Channel to Belgium, around the Isle of Wight and the Solent with the CSSA, Leo and even his bank manager and good friend Roderick. To be continued next month. Rohert Dee

### **Pets Corner**



Bodie was born in Leicestershire and came to live in Croxley Green as a little puppy at the end of lockdown. Miriam and Rao have always looked to the RSPCA when they have wanted a dog in the past pet but unfortunately there weren't any puppies available and now the RSPCA have strict criteria in place as to who they will let home their dogs; one of the criteria is not letting older dogs go to homes that have children under 12 yrs. old. As there are

young grandchildren in the family and children at church, Miriam and Rao sadly couldn't have a rescue dog so looked further afield. Their grandson Joseph had always wanted a dog so what a lovely surprise he had when Bodie came to the vicarage with one of his brothers whom Joseph called Sydney. He is Joseph's much cherished companion and completely different from his brother in looks and character. Bodie is a lively, playful little dog, always on the alert and raring to go whereas Sydney has always had a more mature air about him. They get on very well together and are always pleased to see one another but Sydney makes it quite clear, much to Bodie's displeasure, when he has done enough playing and it is now time to settle down for a quiet time. Bodie was very happy recently when he went into church with Miriam and Carys and Nerys were there so he had some great playmates and ended being exhausted before they were.

Bodie loves going out for walks and and he is never happier than going where he can be let off the lead and be left to his own exploring. He especially likes going through the fields down to the River Chess and has recently ventured out to Chorleywood Nature Reserve where there are some great walks and woody places to discover exciting things. He likes Croxley Woods as well but he once became very frightened when he was in his garden by a very loud noise made by truck in the road and has since become quite scared of loud noises especially when a train passes him while he is out walking.

Miriam said that Bodie is a great companion, he loves cuddles, having a bath and his food, although he has become a bit of a fussy eater due to the lovely food that Rao cooks him in preference to giving him his tinned food!

If you are going past the Church pop your head in and you might see Bodie there but be prepared to be young at heart and share a lovely playtime with him.

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# Vintage Afternoon Tea

Thank you to Sue Fenton and her Team for organising the Vintage Afternoon Tea



on 22nd April. They raised over £500 towards the Hall Refurbishment Fund and everyone had a very enjoyable afternoon.

# Table Top Sale

Thank you to everyone who helped with setting up, serving, baking and clearing away for the Table Top Sale on 22nd April. We made almost £500 for Church Funds.

All the churches in our Deanery are invited to the A scension Day Service on Thursday 18th May at 7.30pm at All Saints' Church Followed by refreshments Please come and join us

## **Wordsearch : Facts about King Charles**

He was born at 9.14pm on 14<sup>th</sup> November 1948 at Buckingham Palace.

He has been heir-apparent to the throne since he was three years old. He is the first monarch in British history to have earned a university degree.

He can speak Welsh.

He is a qualified pilot and diver.

He is a keen watercolour painter, a published author and played the cello at Cambridge.

As Prince of Wales, he founded about 20 charities which raise about £140million each year for good causes.

Aged 73, King Charles III is the oldest monarch ever to be crowned in British history.

He became King on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022, after the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, in Balmoral. As King, he is also now head of the Commonwealth.

Answers	R	Т	Т	С	R	1	Н	U	R	Н	Н	Т	Е	Т
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# Report of the Parish Annual Meetings on 23rd April 2023

The Meetings were attended by Revd. Canon Miriam and Revd. Paul Palmer with 24 parishioners.

At the **Annual Meeting of Parishioners** (open to any resident of the Parish) Anne Oke and Lyndon Palmer were re-elected as Churchwardens for 2023/24.

The meeting was followed by the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM).

### **Elections to the Parochial Church Council**

Sam Beard and Ann Palmer were re-elected to the PCC to serve for the next three years. Gill Main was also elected and welcomed to membership of the PCC. Nik Bennett did not seek re-election and stood down after serving for many years in a number of roles – Churchwarden and Assistant Churchwarden, Deanery Synod Representative and Lay Vice- Chair of the PCC. Miriam spoke of his insightful and useful contributions to PCC discussions over the years and he received a well-merited round of applause.

### **Elections to the Deanery Synod**

Fran Bennett was re-elected to serve for the next three years. Andrew Nobbs was also elected. Shirley Ford did not seek re-election. Miriam thanked her warmly for her commitment to the meetings of the Deanery Synod and the PCC during her period of service and she received a round of applause.

### **Appointment of Independent Examiner of the Parish Accounts**

Mrs Dorothea Reynolds was re-appointed to this role, which is required by law.

### **Electoral Roll**

The 2023 annual revision had resulted in a new Electoral Roll of 90 names, including 5 newly-enrolled people: Janice Mills, Peter and Wendy Rennoldson and Marjorie and Tommy Stevenson.

# Annual Accounts for 2022 and Report of the Independent Examiner

The PCC received the Annual Accounts with the Report of the

Independent Examiner, which had raised no matter of concern about the Accounts. Andrew, our Treasurer, expressed his grateful thanks to Kathryn Duffy who took on this role in an emergency for this year. At the year-end the Accounts showed a surplus of £9,800, which he described as an excellent result, assisted by generous Planned Giving contributions and offertory collections and good results from fundraising activities including the Christmas Market and the Beer Festival. Some generous gifts and legacies had assisted in funding the installation of the wheelchair ramp and the extension of the engraved glass balustrade.

### Annual Report 2022

The Report was presented to the meeting, with oral reports from the Vicar, the Churchwardens, PCC Secretary and Treasurer, the Safeguarding Officer and a Parish Representative to the Deanery Synod supplementing the printed Annual Report and Accounts. These documents, together with a lively summary leaflet, are available online via the All Saints' Church website under the Resources section. Please contact Chris Fagan if you would like a copy.

In her Vicar's Report, Miriam said 2022 had been a marvellous year. The 150th Anniversary Service, Revd. Paul's Ordination, the Flower Festival with the cascade of crocheted flowers on the Church and topping local post boxes and the Beer Festival were all memorable and had had a great impact on the community, while the Friday Cafés were continuing to draw in many people. Miriam thanked so many people in her report for their individual work for All Saints', which has helped to make it a vibrant Church.

'God had been working in our community.' We now have to ask where he is taking us in 2023. Our Mission Action Plan will be reviewed at a Parish Day on 10th June.

The APCM passed a vote of thanks to Miriam for her dedicated care and spiritual leadership of the parish throughout 2022. Miriam thanked everyone and said she felt privileged to be the Vicar of All Saints'.

The meeting concluded with the Grace at 12.10pm

*Chris Fagan* PCC Secretary





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The following poem was composed by the late Mr G. Revell, whom many local people would have remembered, and was recited in conversation with Mr Frank Jackson of Yorke Road. *(Reproduced from a 1973 edition of the Croxley Resident).* 

"The fairest sight I've ever seen is at Croxley on the Green Lying lazily in grass leisurely the cars go past; Buzzing bees and butterflies, Burbling larks, clear blue skies; Hot sun, birds a -twittering, White clad lads a -cricketing; Ditches, delves and gravel roads, Horse and cart with heavy load; Cows that amble slowly by, *Udders full and dull of eye;* Old Nabby leaning on his bike tries in vain to light his pipe; Curses at the tiny breeze whispering softly in the trees; Silent as a waiting mouse sleepy stands the Public House The Coach and Horses old and quaint sadly needs a coat of paint; Cackling hens insect bent, dogs stretched out, exhausted, spent; From the grass the daisies peep, on the wall the cat's asleep; Well worn paths whereon to stroll, grassy banks from which to roll; Sight of hay o'er gates and stiles, girls with warm and happy smiles; Fairest sight of all to me Croxley Green as it used to be; This is lovely to my mind because then, my friend, I was not blind"

You are invited to.....a special service on Sunday 4th June at St Oswald's Church at 3.30pm

Come and meet Cathy and Ruth and hear about their work and ways in which we can support them as a community.

> Croxley Parish Nurse Cathy Scarborough 07562 515791

croxleyparishnursecathy @gmail.com

www.croxleyparishnurse.org

Croxley Parish Nurse Ruth Owusu-Ansah Registered Mental Health Nurse 07305084948

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### **MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM**

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Please e-mail contributions to magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org by the copy dates below. If you have any queries, please contact one of the team above. Thank you.

Final copy date:	15th May	for	June
	15th June	for	July
	15th July	for	August

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR: Fran Bennett **This month's cover** is a design from Parish Pump

### Acknowledgement

Unless otherwise stated, pictures are taken from Parish Pump or else they are produced by members of the magazine team.

We encourage articles from a wide range of contributors and the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors.



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