# All Saints' Croxley Green

Parish Magazine September 2024





# All Saints' Croxley Green

Sunday Worship in Church		Vicar:		
8am	Holy Communion BCP (Second Sunday of the Month)	Revd. Canon Miriam Mugan		
		The Vicarage WD3 3HJ	Tel: 772109	
9.45am	Parish Communion			
		Honorary Priests:		
11 <b>.</b> 30am	First Sunday (formerly Family Service	Revd. Dr Anne Shaw Tel: 827663		
	(First Sunday of the Month)	Associate Priest:		
Weekdays		Revd. Paul Palmer Tel: (	07740871289	
Morning Prayers 8am in Church		Churchwardens		
Monday, Wednesday and Friday		Lyndon Palmer	Tel: 720856	
Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion		Anne Oke	Tel: 220782	
<b>The Church is Open Daily</b> for private prayer and meditation.		Assistant Churchwardens Ann Palmer Gill Main	s: Tel: 720856	
The Parish Office is open for enquiries from 9am to 12 noon, Tuesday to Friday. Answerphone available outside these hours. Tel: 772109 Parish Administrator: Judith Man		Sacristan: Chris Oke Assistants: Mary Bittles Chris Fagan	Tel: 220782 Tel: 771275 Tel: 720319	
		Parochial Church Counci Secretary: Chris Fagan	il:	
Website:www.croxleygreenallsaints.org			Tel: 720319	
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Magazine magazine@croxleygreenallsaints.org		Hall hire email; hall@croxleygreenallsaints	Tel: 770039 s.org	



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

Dear Friends,

I hope you have had a lovely relaxing summer and that you have been able to find times of peacefulness and rest. Thank you so much to those of you who have helped at the Thursday morning Pop Up Café for children under five and

their carers and the Friday Café. Both of these activities have been so greatly appreciated by those who have attended.

The Pop-Up Café was well attended with around 15 adults and 19 children each week. With craft activities, a variety of toys to play with and lovely refreshments everyone had a great time and those of us helping were able to have some good conversations with the parents, grandparents and child minders who attended. The feedback was so positive with comments like: 'this is a lifeline for me and my little boy', 'we look forward to coming each Thursday, it is the highlight of our week,' 'thank you so much for running this group, life with a toddler is lonely sometimes and especially during the school holidays when all the baby and toddler groups stop,' shows that we are meeting a real need for parents and grandparents in our local community. This is an important part of our mission as a Church as we reach out to the local community to support, encourage and demonstrate the love of God and his love for everyone.

The Friday Café continuing through August has also been greatly appreciated. Again, this provides a lovely welcoming place for people to get together to catch up and to make new friends and reducing isolation and loneliness for some. This is another example of our work and mission as a Church community, reaching out to others, sharing hospitality, welcoming and expressing God's love in our actions and words.

These events could not take place without the amazing team of volunteers who fulfil a variety of roles from setting up, serving and clearing away to baking wonderful cakes. Thank you so much! God is at work in and through all that you do, and you are wonderful witnesses of his love and generosity.

As we move into September, the pace of life picks up again. There is a lot to look forward to in the coming months. We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on 15th September at our 9.45am service. Our gifts this year will be going to the Catholic Worker Farm in Mill End which provides temporary accommodation, food, English lessons, counselling, and other services for destitute (without access to public funds) female asylum seekers and their children, at no charge. All of the women are street homeless and are referred to the Catholic Worker Farm by refugee services/agencies, Social Services, The Police, and other bodies. It meets the physical needs in relation to shelter, food, and clothing, but just as importantly, enables the guests to live in a supportive and loving environment. There is information further on in this magazine about the type of produce that the farm would value most.

Looking ahead in October we have...

Quiet Church 9th October at 7.30pm

Beer Festival 11-13th October

Animal Blessing Service 20th October at 12 mid-day

Archdeacon Charles celebrating and preaching at our 9.45am service on 27th October.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers and helps in any way in the life, work and mission in our Church. Your contribution and commitment are so greatly valued. God works in and through you as we seek to bring the love, peace and presence of God to everyone in our Church and community.

With my love and prayers

Miriam

\*\*\*\*\*\*

## Pat Benoy

It is with sadness that we write to tell you the news that Pat Benoy (Evett) passed away on Saturday 17th August after a short illness.

Please keep Andy and the family in your prayers at this sad a time.

## **Parish Register and Records**

#### BAPTISMS

Sunday 4th August 2024

Charles GALLOWAY

Sunday 4th August 2024

Alfie Gerard Luke FENNER and

Charlie Gerard Paul FENNER

# **Gospel Readings for September**

Sunday September 1st Trinity 14	Mark 7 v 1-8,14-15,21-23
Sunday September 8th Trinity 15	Mark 7 v 24 – end
Sunday September 15th Trinity 16 Harvest Festival	Matthew 6 v 25 – 33
Sunday September 22nd Trinity 17	Mark 9 v 30 – 37
Sunday September 29th Trinity 18	Mark 9 v 38 - end



## **The Prayer Tree**



In the Lady Chapel there is a tree – well a twig actually. Being a twig it is dead but it glows with the prayers that people have written. There are prayers of thanksgiving and requests to God for prayers to be answered in difficult situations as well as requests for healing. At the Family Service, both adults and children are encouraged to make use of the tree.

As Christians, part of our ministry is to pray for our world and for other people. Today many of us have concerns about what is happening and what might happen in this world in which we live. We are all experiencing change and uncertainty in many ways in our lives. However, we need to remember that God is changeless and His Kingdom is eternal. He has shown us the love He has for this world as well as for each one of us by and through His son Jesus Christ. This was when the eternal entered the temporal in a very vivid way. This knowledge should be part of the ground of our being and a great source of comfort and strength.

At our Thursday Eucharist, the prayers on The Prayer Tree become part of our intercessions. Each month, in future, the paper on which the prayers are written, will have a different colour. The prayers will remain on the tree for two months. This will allow those who have added prayers at the end of a month, to have them remembered until the end of the following month. In addition to the weekly Thursday Service, there are those who look at The Tree and choose to pray for a number of situations or people in their daily prayers.

Please make use of The Prayer Tree; either by adding your own prayers or praying for those who ask for our prayers - or both!

If you have any questions or concerns about our Prayer Tree, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

With love and prayers

Revd Anne

## Godincidence

I remember a conversation with Paul Palmer, very soon after he joined us, where I was explaining about a coincidence that had happened to me that week. He said he likes to think of them as a *Godincidence* – times in life where divine intervention is at play. Ever since, I've always looked for God in my "coincidences" to find his presence. They are opportunities for me to be grateful for the visible presence of God, a reminder he is ever present and always active, often in the mundane activities of daily life. It's probably why they are so easily overlooked.

I had a very obvious Godincidence this week, and I could not have been more grateful for my saviour! Recently my two girls learnt to ride their bikes, but I haven't been well enough to go out with them on my own, worried about carrying them or a bike home should they have an accident. This week we braved a trip to Croxley Moor and all was going well until the littlest came flying off sideways simultaneously disconnecting her brake cable. A few grazes and a bit shocked was the least of my problems as she cried about the broken bike I had no idea of how to fix. Even reassuring "daddy can fix it later" was of no help. Wondering how I was ever going to pacify her, we proceeded to walk the bike back to the gate together with my eldest way ahead. She had stopped at the gate and was chatting to a stranger (well a stranger to me). I was introduced to my saviour as "mum this is the lady that works at the cycle hub who taught us how to ride our bikes and fix them." After a quick arrow prayer of "thank you Jesus" my new best friend proceeded to mend the bike and we were soon on our way powering home.

I share this story as means of an encouragement. When things seem challenging, God surprises us with his presence in and through one another. As you go through this week, look out for your *God incidences*. Maybe you will bump into someone unexpectedly, receive a call or a kind word from a stranger. God is here, busy and active among us. We need to just be attentive to the ways he is present and look for him in all things.

Sam

#### Nature watch

While we are busy during the day carrying out all sorts of tasks, trees are there very quietly and busily doing theirs. Have you ever thought about how many jobs a tree carries out? Here are a few ideas; maybe you can add some more:

They clean the air

colour our world all year round

provide shade and shelter for so many animals, insects and birds give us water

are an amazing food source

they help to cure us as many prescription drugs are derived from plants around the world

they provide jobs and recreation

are used to make furniture and buildings

they are used to make paper – how many ways do you use paper? We have a wonderful variety of trees in our Church garden, here are a few. Next time you take a walk in the garden, see if you can you find them from their leaf shapes?

	No.	S.	June -	
holly	yew	oak	common ma- ple	field ash

Trees are good at what they do, at being oak or beech or yew. They shake their leaves to make a breeze and pop out blossom for the bees. In crook of branch they'll hold a nest which, birds concur, is for the best. On rainy days they shield the feller who's forgotten his umbrella. In summer they provide the shade for picnickers out in the glade. Inside their sturdy hearts of wood trees are simply doing good. A F Harrold



#### A kindness tree

Can you make a kindness tree and hang it up on the nature watch board at the back of the Church?

#### Directions

Trace or draw leaves and flowers on colourful sheets of paper and cut them out. ...

Cut out a tree trunk shape and branches and attach it to a larger piece of paper.

When you do something kind for someone else write or draw it on a leaf and attach it to your tree and watch your tree blossom.

Alice and Fran

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*****
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# Smile Lines from Parish Pump

#### Golf

"I play Second World War golf," one clergyman confessed to another. "You know – out in 39 and back in 45."

#### Cucumber

A small boy asked his mother for a cucumber to take to Junior Church. A slightly puzzled mother complied. Later she asked what it had been used for. "Sorry, mum," he confessed. "I got it wrong. We were supposed to bring a newcomer."

#### Egg

What did the egg in the monastery say? "Out of the frying pan and into the friar."

#### Miscellaneous observations on daily life...

The secret to a clean kitchen is simple. Don't cook. Ever.

The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Microchips: What's left at the bottom of the bag.

The inventor of the doorbell obviously did not own a dog.



## Fairtrade Fortnight 9th-22nd September 2024

Fairtrade Fortnight 2024 will run from the 9th of September – 22nd of September. It's 30 years since Fairtrade products first hit the shelves and this year for Fairtrade Fortnight, we are being asked to 'Be

the Change', by choosing Fairtrade every time.

Fairtrade works with farming co-operatives, businesses and governments to make trade fairer and together they have set a vision to have a world in which trade is based on fairness so that producers earn secure and sustainable livelihoods.



Fairtrade has a network of dedicated supporters who help to raise awareness of the issues of unfair trade and fundraise to support its work.

Fairtrade sets social, economic and environmental standards for the companies and farmers involved in the supply chain.

For farmers and workers, the standards include protection of workers' rights and the environment; for companies they include the payment of the Fairtrade Minimum Price safety net and an additional Fairtrade Premium.

Buying Fairtrade is easy. There are over 5,000 Fairtrade products. When you shop, look for the FAIRTRADE Mark. Here are a few to look out for: bananas, flowers, cold drinks, chocolate, gold, sugar, spreads and oils, coffee, tea, wines and beers, cotton, vanilla and spices, fruit and veg, nuts and dried fruit

Join us in urging everyone to 'Be the Change' by picking up Fairtrade products when you shop.

# Congratulations...

Congratulations to William and Josh on their amazing A level results. Please keep them in your prayers as they start their University courses this autumn. William is going to Durham to study music and Josh is going to Cardiff to study chemistry.



Congratulations to James on his results. He will be joining the Sixth Form in September. Please keep him in your prayers too.



#### ...and Back to School

Please keep all children and school staff in your thoughts and prayers as the new school year starts.

Please particularly remember Nerys who is starting Little Green Junior School and Huldah who is starting school for the first time.

\*\*\*\*\*

# Smile lines with education in mind...

#### **Off to school**

Mother to young daughter after first day at school: "Well, dear, what did they teach you today?"

Daughter: "Not much. I've got to go back again tomorrow."

#### **Going to college**

Lecturing is transferring information from the notes of the lecturer to the notes of the students without passing through the minds of either.

#### In common

I was the supply teacher for a class that was learning about groups. In one exercise, pupils were asked to label a group of items according to their common characteristics. Pictured were onion rings, doughnuts, and party biscuits. The correct answer would have been that all the items have holes in the centre.

But one health-conscious boy pointed out: "All of those things contain far too much cholesterol."

Parish Pump

# **Social and Fundraising Committee Diary**

#### Harvest BBQ : Sunday 15th September

The Harvest BBQ will take place following the Harvest Festival service on Sunday 15th September.

Tickets on sale now and are

 $\pounds 6$  for adults and  $\pounds 3.50$  for children under 12

and are available to purchase after the Sunday 9.45am Parish Communion or from the Parish Office.

For catering purposes, please book your place by Sunday 8th September.

Soft drinks will be provided but you are welcome to bring along your own beer / wine etc to consume.

This will be a fundraiser for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal so any proceeds, after costs, will be donated to the appeal (see page 16 for more information)

#### **Beer Festival : 11th to 13th October**



The Beer Festival this year will take place over the weekend of the 11th to 13th October and promises to be another wonderful event. Further details will be available nearer the time but in the meantime please put the dates in your diary.

#### **Christmas Market : Saturday 16th November**

We are well into our planning for this year's Christmas Market on Saturday 16th November and hope to announce the main prizes for the Grand Prize Draw very soon.

We will, as always, be looking for lots of help on the day itself as well as donations towards some of the Church stalls and, of course, support in selling Prize Draw tickets.



Ann Palmer



## **Harvest Flowers**

We will be decorating the Church for Harvest on Friday 13th September. So, why not come along to the Friday Café and help us to put some arrangements together?

No floral skills are needed and all resources and any help required will be provided.

If you have any garden flowers or greenery that you could bring along, that would be really helpful but if not don't worry just come along for a chat and coffee/tea and cake while we begin to celebrate the Harvest weekend.



Fran Bennett and Wendy Shafe



### Harvest Festival Service 15th September at 9.45am

We will be supporting the Catholic Worker Farm in Mill End with our donations this year. They are particularly short of:

Cooking oil	UHT milk	Toilet paper
Washing machine tablets (not powder)	sugar	Tomato ketchup
Mayonnaise		

but would also welcome gifts of other tinned foods and cleaning products.

# September Prayer Diary

Date	In our Church Family
1st	Ben, Sarah, Abbie and Joshua Guest
2nd	Richard and Patricia Hall
3rd	Anne Harris
4th	Clare Hearnshaw
5th	Gretel and Ron Hibbert
6th	Francis Hilsden
7th	Matthew, Sarah, Emily and William Hilton-Dennis
8th	Phil and Linda Hobbs
9th	Val Hunt
10th	Karen, Paul, Amelie and Olivia Jarvis
11th	Sam, Simon, Carys and Nerys Jones
12th	Adam and Asia Keene
13th	Valerie Kendle
14th	Margaret and Roger Kircher
15th	Anni and Tom Lowery

16th	Lorraine, Nigel and Isobel McCobb
17th	Jean McLaughlin
18th	Sue and Roger McKeague
19th	James McShane
20th	Gill and Brian Main
21st	Jude, Yin and Alex Man
22nd	Jane, Ed, Joseph and Ben Manning
23rd	Janet, Graham, Zoe and Samantha Martin
24th	Sue Middleton
25th	Jan Mills
26th	Miriam and Rao Mugan
27th	Judith and David Muir
28th	Faith Nazir
29th	Sheila Newman
30th	Andrew Nobbs



# 28<sup>th</sup> Sept St Lioba - a memorable woman

What really gets a woman remembered? Loved? Respected? Lioba the abbess of Bischofsheim is the patron saint for any woman who wants to make the most of her life.

Lioba was born in Wessex early in the 8<sup>th</sup> century. Her family was noble, her mother was a relative of the monk Boniface (the Billy Graham of the day, in that he was the apostle and then archbishop of Germany).

Lioba was educated first at the nunnery of Minster-in-Thanet and then at Wimborne, Dorset. She became a nun. After some years of correspondence with Boniface, he invited her to Germany to help him evangelise the people by establishing convents. Convents were sort of the 'Fresh Expressions' of church in those days.

And so Lioba left Dorset with 30 nuns and went to Tauberbischofsheim, where she established a convent. She was a wonderful 'ambassador' of Christianity, for people found her both beautiful and accessible, intelligent and patiently kind. She became so highly esteemed that soon her advice was sought by magnates of both Church and State.

Lioba's convents followed the Rule of St Benedict: all her nuns learned Latin as well as manual work in scriptorium, kitchen, bakery, brewery and garden. Above all, the regular public prayer of the



Church was upheld.

Learning, hard work, and love of God: those were the factors that made Lioba who she was. Her walk with God was evident in her inner strength and dignity, her goodness and kindness. No wonder that even 50 years after her death in 782, the local people were still talking of her with great affection.

From Parish Pump

#### All in the month of September

It was:

250 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 1774 that British explorer Captain James Cook became the first European to discover New Caledonia in the south-west Pacific, during his second voyage.

150 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> Sept 1874 that Gustav Holst, was born. This British composer, arranger and educator is best known for *The Planets*.

100 years ago, on 25<sup>th</sup> Sept 1924 that British racing driver Malcolm Campbell broke the land speed record for the first time. He recorded a speed of 146mph in a 1921 Sunbeam Grand Prix car at Pendine Sands, Carmarthen Bay, Wales.

75 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 1949 that the Christmas song *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* was released. It was sung by the American movie-star and singer, Gene Autry, nicknamed the 'Singing Cowboy'.

70 years ago, on 15<sup>th</sup> Sept 1954 that the iconic photograph of Marilyn Monroe's billowing skirt as she stood over a New York subway grate was taken during filming for *The Seven-Year Itch*. The event was staged as a publicity stunt.

60 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 1964 the Forth Road Bridge opened in Scotland. It links Edinburgh to Fife across the Firth of Forth. (A second bridge, the Queensferry Crossing, opened in 2017 and largely replaced it.)

40 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 1984 that British geneticist Alec Jeffreys discovered genetic fingerprinting, also known as DNA profiling. It allowed criminals to be identified from hair, blood, or sweat left at crime scenes. It also allowed families to trace their lineages or determine the paternity of children.

10 years ago, on 18<sup>th</sup> Sept 2014 that the Scottish independence referendum was held. The citizens of Scotland voted to remain in the UK rather than becoming an independent country. (Independence: 44.7%; Remain in the UK: 55.3%)

From Parish Pump

# **Bishop of Saint Albans Harvest Appeal 2024**

This year the Bishop's Harvest Appeal is being run in partnership with The Leprosy Mission to support a project in Sri Lanka, which provides those affected by leprosy with the means to grow their own food and raise their standard of living.

**Thrive: Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture in Sri Lanka** Sri Lanka is suffering from the worst economic crisis in its history. Families are struggling with soaring prices and shortages of food and fuel and life is even harder for families affected by leprosy.



This year's Harvest Appeal supports The Leprosy Mission in their work in Sri Lanka, in particular working with Kaveri Kala Manram (KKM), which was founded by Reverend Joshua.

A vital part of KKM's work is making sure that families affected by leprosy have enough nutritious food to eat and the opportunity to

sell surplus fruit and vegetables that they have grown to provide a good income. Revd. Joshua also brings people affected by leprosy together for community meals, where they can learn more about food and nutrition.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

**Observations on life** 

Here's a foolproof way to tell right from wrong: If the thought 'could I get caught?' runs through your mind, it's wrong.

You're not as young as you used to be. But you're not as old as you're going to be.

**Those Church Notices that didn't quite make it...** A talk on drugs will be given at the next Mothers' Union meeting. This will be followed by a Bring and Buy Sale.

A sudden gust of wind took all who were at the ceremony by surprise. Hats were blown off and copies of the vicar's speech and other rubbish were scattered over the site.

## A Thank You Letter to All Saints'

Dear Supporters

I am writing to thank you for your recent kind donation of £139.76 which you raised at your church coffee morning. Would you please thank all those concerned when you next have a chance.

As you may know, macular disease is the biggest cause of sight loss in the UK – with around 300 people diagnosed every day – and the number of people affected is set to double in the next 20 years. Macular disease is cruel and isolating. It steals your sight, your confidence and your ability to do the things you love. Your donation will help us to beat the fear and isolation of macular disease with world-class research and the best advice and support. Thank you again for your kind contribution towards our work. With your help we will find a cure for macular disease, so no one has to lose the life they know and love.

Best wishes Susie

#### Susie McCallum

Community & Events Fundraising Manager Macular Society



#### 

#### **Thank You**

We would like to say 'Thank You' to Graham Martin who has covered the noticeboard in the entrance to the Hall with new cream felt and trimmed it with a wooden edging. It looks really smart and finishes off the refurbishment really well.

Thank you again. *The Hall Committee* 

# Pop-Up Café

During the month of August, on a Thursday morning, adults and young children under 5 came to the Church Hall at All Saints' to enjoy a variety of activities and, of course, a selection of refreshments.





This was very well attended and really appreciated by those who came, as Miriam said in her letter.

Great fun was had by one and all!





This is an important part of our mission as a Church as we reach out to the local community to support, encourage and demonstrate the love of God and his love for everyone.



# ALL SAMS BEER FESTIVAL IN THE CHURCH

# 11th OCTOBER - 13th OCTOBER All Saints' Church, Croxley Green

A WIDE SELECTION OF BEER & CIDER, FINE WINES & SPIRITS ALL WITHIN THE BEAUTIFUL ATMOSPHERE OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

## FOOD AVAILABLE

# FALLS PREVENTION EXERCISE CLASS





#### Every Tuesday All Saints Church, Croxley Green, WD3 3HJ

Are you 65 over years of age? Are you worried about falling? Have you had a fall in the last year? Do you feel unsteady? Do you have brittle bones (osteoporosis)? Do you feel weakness in your legs? Would you like to improve your **strength**, **mobility**, **balance** and **confidence**?

Join a **physiotherapist** led 60 minute postural stability class to help improve your strength, balance and confidence and **reduce your risk of falls**.

You can self refer by calling 07961 249343 or get referred by your local GP or physiotherapist





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## Happy as Larry

#### (Or, His Majesty's Chief Mouser to the Cabinet Office)

If you should be in Downing Street It may just be that you will meet A public servant of long years Who has a tail, And pointy ears! His job, around that famous house? To keep it free of any mouse. A job he'd have more chance of keeping By hunting rather more than sleeping! His name is 'Larry', this fine cat Upon the step you'll find him sat Prime Ministers? They are only guests Seen off like mice, or other pests. Or Palmerston, a nearby cat (The Foreign Office cleared of rats.) But Larry, he withstood the threats-That cat has gone like Thatcher's wets! So Larry, happy, licks his paws No cat around to test his claws. But wait! What's this? Another drama! A cat has come with Sir Keir Starmer!

By Nigel Beeton



Downing Street has seen rather a lot of comings and goings over the past few years, hasn't it? But one occupant of Number Ten has been slightly more constant: Larry the cat But Larry's getting on now – he is 17 years old. He's earned his retirement, I think. So maybe Sir Keir's cat, Jojo, will be appointed Chief Mouser to the Cabinet Office! Croxley Parish Nurse and Macmillan cancer support

# Cancer Support Group

Next meetings are Thursdays: 6th September and 3rd October At All Saints' Church, The Green, WD3 3HJ

We welcome anyone who has been affected by cancer. Join our warm and friendly group to meet others, share your experiences and learn coping techniques.



croxleyparishnursecathy@gmail.com

www.croxleyparishnurse.org

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

croxleyparishnurseruth@gmail.com





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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:	8th September	for	October and November
			(combined edition)
	15th November	for	December

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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