

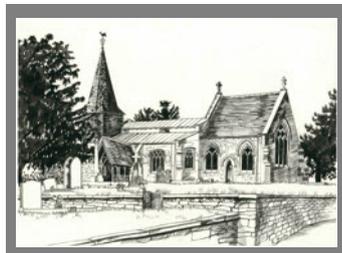
Open to GOD, Open to EVERYONE, Open to CHANGE

All Saints' Church, Lydalls Road

*In this month's edition:*

- June diary
- Thought for the month
- Nice to meet you
- July diary
- Events and activities
- And finally...

## June/July 2016



### June Diary

Weds 1st 7.30pm Open Door Retreat, 7.30pm Wedding rehearsal

Sat 4th 10am Churchyard Working Party, 12 noon Wedding,  
3pm Wedding

Sun 5th (Trinity 2) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship,  
12.30pm Baptism, 2pm Baptism,  
6pm Joint Choral Evensong (St Peter's)

Mon 6th 7.45pm Fellowship group (hall)

Tues 7th 9.30am Communion

Weds 8th 7.30pm Open Door Retreat

Thurs 9th 10am Fellowship group (hall)

Sun 12th (Trinity 3) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship,  
2pm Baptism

Mon 13th 2.30pm Young at Heart (hall)

Tues 14th 9.30am Communion

Weds 15th 6pm Churchyard Working Party, 7.30pm Open Door  
Retreat

Sun 19th (Trinity 4) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship,  
2pm Service at The Meadows

Mon 20th 7.45pm Fellowship group (hall)

Tues 21st 9.30am Communion, 10.30am Communion at The  
Meadows

Weds 22nd 7.30pm Open Door Retreat

Thurs 23rd 10am Fellowship group (hall)

Sun 26th (Trinity 5) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship,  
2pm Wedding

Mon 27th 2pm Natter Knitters Social Group (hall)

Tues 28th 9.30am Communion, 7.30pm Baptism preparation

Weds 29th 7.30pm Quiet Space

### That referendum: Thursday 23rd June

Do we want to stay in the EU or do we want to leave? This important decision will affect our country for many years whatever the outcome... if you are unsure of the issues you could visit [www.oxford.anglican.org/prepare-to-vote-in-the-eu-referendum](http://www.oxford.anglican.org/prepare-to-vote-in-the-eu-referendum)



## Thought for the month



We all like to be blessed – for ourselves and others we wish all-round prosperity or well-being and ‘in Christ’ every spiritual blessing. Abraham heard he would be a blessing to others; *I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing (Genesis 12: 2)* and Jesus instructs the 72 to bring God’s blessing to others; *Whatever house you enter, first say, “Peace to this house!” (Luke 10: 5).*

But how do we know or see signs of God’s blessing where we live? When we started working in Great Western Park we spent time thinking and praying about where the focus should be. Two elements seemed important; one to support community and the other to allow those living there to develop and grow their faith (this has pretty much directed all that has been done in this new estate). It is fundamentally a blessing which comes from walking along-side others – we see signs of God’s blessing through us.

But this community is complex, like so many others, with issues around isolation/loneliness, dealing with new infrastructure and building cohesion. I’m certain God cares about people’s physical well-being, and sometimes acts to enhance this. Sometimes he acts miraculously, but often appears to do little or nothing – why? are we simply to accept that God works in mysterious ways? If we begin by accepting that he does and can work through us, then this should inspire us to action. That God blesses some things and not others is perhaps not something we should question (although I may prefer things to be more consistent).

The community events that we put on along-side acts of worship in this church and in GWP allow us to reveal God’s blessing to others. It is in Christ Jesus that the blessing of Abraham comes to us (Gentiles). Because of him, and especially his death and resurrection, God can give us what is most important for our well-being. In our blessing of others we are also blessed...



As I reflect on this I sense that all of what we do, indeed our entire Christian life, rests on God’s goodness and abundant kindness showered upon us with blessing. The integrity of the ‘work’ which we offer, whether in acts of kindness, visiting, prayer, neighbourliness or commitment to church, is simply to make known God’s blessing. May he give us the courage to keep at it!

*Mark Bodeker, Curate All Saints’ & Community Minister GWP*

*The top picture shows the Lenten tree which stood in church during Lent, decorated with photos of those connected to All Saints’. The second photo is from a GWP service at the UTC.*

## Worship at All Saints’ 5th June – 23rd October



For a while our 10am Sunday worship will follow a different pattern: we won’t be having an all age worship on the first Sunday each month but there will be occasional services without communion. We will follow themes (Gathering, Engaging, Sharing, Sending) where we reflect on how our worship helps us to do these things in our daily lives.

Sunday School will be meeting until 17th July and then restarting hopefully on 11th September. Over the summer there will be special activities for the children in church. Tim Scane is standing down as Sunday School leader in July after 20 years’ service. *There will be a meeting in church after the 10am service on 12th June for anyone who is interested in ensuring that Sunday School continues.*

## Nice to meet you... Kathryn Roberts-Lock

Kathryn first came to All Saints' on Christmas Day when she was 16 days old, brought by her parents Philip and Janette. From the age of 3½ until she was 18 she went to the European School at Culham (because her mum worked at JET) so she gained a European Baccalaureate rather than UK qualifications and speaks fluent French. Culham had strong links with other European Schools so she had several European trips with the school choir.

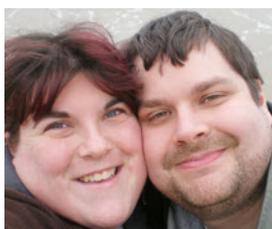


Kathryn was in the Girl Guides from age 5, becoming a leader with Rainbows and Brownies, and used to organise their badge trips, including visiting All Saints' for bellringing and faith awareness. She learnt bellringing at Harwell from age 11 (following a family tradition – it's how her parents met!) and has rung all over the UK. Kathryn is part of our church group which practices on Monday evenings (6-7.15pm) with the bells rung from 9.30am on Sunday mornings. If you'd like to get involved yourself then contact Kathryn on 01235 798367 or [kathryn.roberts09@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.roberts09@gmail.com).

Kathryn was Confirmed age 11 (having classes with Philip Dallaway) and became a Sunday School helper here a couple of years later, but her faith only became real to her when she went on a CYFA Venture holiday the following year. After that she went on other similar camps, joined the Methodist youth club, and attended a Youth Alpha course, going on to help set up the 'Bridges' group (themed teenager events across Didcot) which was a pre-cursor to the Soul in Didcot project. Along the way she also attended Greenbelt each year, working with the children.

After school she spent 4 years in Manchester, doing a Masters degree in Chemistry (including a year at AstraZeneca) and also helped set up a Sunday School in the Anglo-Catholic church she attended there. Since then she has twice attempted to obtain a PhD (in nuclear waste issues), in Leeds and then in Birmingham, but has had to pull out due to poor health. In between she worked for part of AEA Technology as a chemical emergency responder, and has recently had a couple of other roles but is currently not working for health reasons.

Kathryn has been a flower-arranger from her teens, and arranges both here and at Harwell church. She has also joined the Natter Knitters social group here. She became an All Saints' PCC member first aged 16 and has just joined it again, having done it several times in between!



She met husband David (who has a job in digital mapping in Reading, although his degree was in archaeology) at a party, and they were married last year. David proposed at London Zoo (by the lemur enclosure, they are Kathryn's favourite animals) and swept her off to

Disneyland Florida for their honeymoon. They now live on Ladygrove.





## Celebrating in Song on Sunday 5th June

The joint choirs of All Saints' & St. Peter's are celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday with a special Choral Evensong at St. Peter's in Newlands Avenue. The Revd Mark Bodeker will be preaching and leading the intercessions. Do come along and experience this special act of worship.

## July Diary

Sat 2nd 10am Churchyard Working Party

Sun 3rd (Trinity 6) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship,  
3pm Wedding Blessing

Mon 4th 7.45pm Fellowship group (hall)

Tues 5th 9.30am Communion, 7pm prayers followed by 7.30pm PCC

Sun 10th (Trinity 7) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship

Mon 11th 2.30pm Young at Heart (hall), 7.30pm Healing Group  
(church)

Tues 12th 9.30am Communion, 1.45pm All Saints' School Leavers'  
Service

Weds 13th 6pm Churchyard Working Party, 7.30pm Churches  
Together (at All Saints')

Thurs 14th 10am Fellowship group (hall)

Sun 17th (Trinity 8) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship,  
2pm Service at The Meadows

Mon 18th - Fri 22nd Great Western Park Activity Week

Tues 19th 9.30am Communion,

10.30am Communion at The Meadows

Sun 24th (Trinity 9) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship,  
1pm Baptism

Tues 26th 9.30am Communion

Sun 31st (Trinity 10) 8am Communion, 10am Morning Worship

*On term-time Mondays Tiddlers2Toddlers meets from 9.30am in the hall,  
with activities for pre-schoolers and their carers.*

*On Thursdays the Community Café runs on GWP from 10am  
and Didcot Sing's Choir (for teenagers) rehearses from 6.30pm in church.*

The Activities Week in GWP is on again; bigger and busier than before. It will be held week commencing Monday 25th July with various events, from Musical Minis (with special guest Iggle Piggle) to an Army-led Command Course, taking place in the GWP Community Centre and Stephen Freeman School. The events are for this new community and are all free.



For more information search @gwpactivitiesweek on Facebook. If you would like to help then please contact Mark, markbodeker@gmail.com.



## Last month's caption competition

Our photo showing Karen striding off for her parachute jump a few years back obviously lent itself to comment: "After discovering she couldn't walk on water, Karen thought she'd try something slightly easier".

We particularly liked Helen Walker's entry – "It said this way for flying bishop training".

## Working together with children

Churches Together in Didcot and District have a long tradition of working together to reach out to the children of our town. This summer you can be a part of two different events:

**Prayer Spaces** – this opportunity for children to spend time in prayer at school is taking place at Ladygrove Park Primary School from 6th – 10th June. Then from 11th – 15th July, for the first time, we will be holding prayer spaces at a secondary school, Didcot Girls School.

**Treasure Times** – every Thursday during the summer holidays we will be holding a morning of activities and Bible stories from 10am – 12 noon at Didcot Baptist Church. Children aged 5 – 11 are welcome to come with their carers, and light refreshments are available during the morning.

## Festival of Prayer

The Festival gives space to enrich prayer with practical suggestions and exercises, and from 10am - 4pm on Saturday 9th July will provide a rich and varied choice of speakers and workshops. Set in the beautiful and peaceful grounds of Ripon College, Cuddleston, it is a day to reflect on spiritual disciplines that enhance our life of prayer. The keynote speaker this year is Canon Angela Tilby, theologian, writer, TV and radio presenter, who will be talking about 'praying with imperfection'. Further information about the day (which costs £25) can be found on [www.brfonline.org.uk/festival-of-prayer](http://www.brfonline.org.uk/festival-of-prayer)



## Faith & Science at All Saints'

On Sunday 10th July the diocesan Science Missioner, Revd. Jennifer Brown, will be coming to focus on how faith and science can deepen our understanding of both. Jennifer is based at the Harwell campus and is also a part of the Churn Benefice team.

## Fundraising

The fundraising group are delighted that the total for Clare Hamer's 'Channel' swim has now reached over £1300, with some extra Gift Aid still to be added. A brilliant effort.

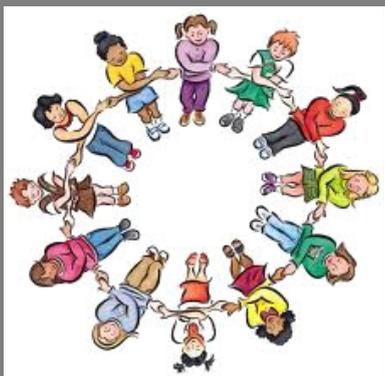
Work has started towards this year's church fair on Sunday 4th September and more details about this will appear in the notice sheets.

Plans are now being made for sponsored tandem parachute jumps (Mark Bodeker and Andrew Jones have both volunteered so far – would you like to join them??)

There are ideas for a 'Race Night' on Saturday 29th October.

After the success of this year's Burns Night Supper, a similar event will be held on Saturday 28th January 2017.

Fundraising activities are also being planned by other church groups... if you have ideas for raising funds for the various building projects to be undertaken in the next few years to maintain and improve our lovely ancient building, please have a word with Sue Scane or Ali Adams.



## Sunday services

There is normally an 8am Communion service.

Sunday 10am services are Morning Worship, which will mostly be Communion.

Additionally, there is usually a 9.30am service each Tuesday (Communion or Morning Prayer).

*Other services can be found listed on our new website: [www.didcotallsaints.org.uk](http://www.didcotallsaints.org.uk)*



## Clergy

Revd Karen Beck (Priest-in-Charge) 01235 813244  
karen.beck140@gmail.com

All Saints Rectory, 140 Lydalls Road, Didcot OX11 7EA

Revd Mark Bodeker (Curate) 01235 816501, markbodeker@gmail.com  
1 Holly Lane, Great Western Park, Didcot OX11 6DA

Revd Hugh Boorman (Associate Minister) 01235 819036  
12 Trent Road, Didcot OX11 7RB

Dr Nick Hards (Licensed Lay Minister) 01235 510146  
184 Abingdon Road, Didcot OX11 9BP

## Churchwardens

Alastair Adams 01235 212575, 64 Wessex Road, Didcot OX11 8BS

Jean Holderness 01235 814603, 26 Lydalls Close, Didcot OX11 7LA

## Parish Directory

PCC Secretary: Lindsey Bettison, 1 Medlock Grove, Didcot OX11 7XY  
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Music Leader: Margaret Cotterell, 01235 813718

Safeguarding Officer: Peter Sumner, 01235 538559

## Additional Parish record for February 2016

**Baptism:** Edie Rose Parker

## Parish records for May 2016

**Baptisms:** Georgia Emily Tanner, Caleb McGibbon, Owen Lloyd, Tianna and Devon Dunkley, Oliver Joseph Burns **Thanksgiving for a child:** Matilda Danielle Fourie, Isla Florence Quinn Marriott

**Wedding:** Ryan O'Gorman & Samantha Hullett

**Wedding blessing:** Michael & Hannah Tilbrook

## And finally... a right royal affair



The town is celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday with an event on Saturday 2nd July in Edmonds Park from 1 – 9 pm. There will be lots of activities for all the family and All Saints' will be having a stall. If you can help man the stall for a part of the day, please speak to Kathryn Roberts-Lock or Dawn Lake.