

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH SANDRIDGE
PARISH MAGAZINE
OCTOBER 2024



DIARY FOR OCTOBER
LETTER FROM OUR VICAR
FOCUS ON CRAFT CHURCH
FLOWER FESTIVAL INFO
PATRON SAINT OF HARVEST
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

OCTOBER DIARY

Tuesday 1	10.00am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 6	10.00am	Harvest Festival: please bring a donation for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal and/or donations for the Foodbank
Tuesday 8	10.00am	Midweek Communion
Friday 11 - Sunday 13		Flower Festival - all details on page 5
Sunday 13	10.00am 4.00pm	Holy Communion Festival Choral Evensong and official closing of the Flower Festival
Monday 14	10.00am	Rededication of the War Memorial and Lychgate by the Bishop of Hertford
Tuesday 15	10.00am	Midweek Communion
Saturday 19	10.00-12.00	Craft Church
Sunday 20	10.00am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 22	10.00am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 27	10.00am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 29	10.00am	Midweek Communion

NOVEMBER DIARY

Sunday 3	10.00am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 5	10.00am	Midweek Communion
Sunday 10	Remembrance Sunday	
	10.00	Short communion service
	10.30	Coffee served
	10.50	Service at the Lychgate



www.sandridgechurch.org.uk

The church is open daily from 10.00am until at least 3.00pm

Cover image and image on page 17 are from previous Flower Festivals

Letter from our Vicar

Dear Friends

This letter is being written on the last day of a week's holiday in Thorpeness in Suffolk, somewhere I much recommend. The forecast suggests that the lovely weather will break tomorrow and so summer will be well and truly over.



Our holiday has been shared with my son and his family, including my two year old granddaughter. It has been just joyful to look at the world through her eyes for a week. Everything new she encountered has been the subject of complete awe. There was the thing she started off calling the 'sandpit', because she couldn't remember seeing a beach before. Many happy moments have been spent digging and making sandcastles. Then there was the thing she called 'the paddling pool'. Yes, that was the sea! She soon learned the joy of jumping over the waves, firmly holding an adult's hand.

We took her on her first trip to a zoo. Her especial favourites were the lemurs and the meerkats. My favourite thing was her referring to the warthog as a hakuna matata, because Grandad often sings her this song from the Lion King. We made lots of special memories.

Jesus tells us that to enter the Kingdom of Heaven we have to be like children. We have to recall the simple pleasures of life - whether that's feeding the ducks, or eating an ice cream, or wearing a brand new pair of wellies. Because the joy of life is to be found in those things and not in searching after the unattainable or wanting more and more.

October is a splendid month to enjoy the childlike but not childish pleasures of kicking through leaves, or wondering at a sunset or eating an apple you picked from a tree. The Kingdom of God can be found in all that demonstrates love for our environment or for one another. You may not be lucky enough to currently share your life with a young child, but we can all remember (if we try) how exciting our world was when we were young ourselves. As we enter autumn in all its glory, let's all try to look at our world through the eyes of a child and give thanks to God for its splendour.

Every blessing

Revd Wendy Sellers

W I Report



At our September meeting, Sarah Donnelly led a session of keep fit. We had all come kitted out in gym clothes, but the session was not quite what we expected as it was all seated and also involved exercising our vocal cords by singing along to songs such as *Amarillo*, *Heard it through the grapevine* and *Que Sera, Sera*, as well as shouting!

Sarah explained by telling us that she worked in care homes and as a masseuse, as well as working with young people at risk of going astray. All the movements involved were something of a challenge to our co-ordination, as we were asked to march and wave our arms and also to do heel and toe and kicking movements. We soon warmed up and enjoyed tea and coffee with cake at the end of the meeting after putting the business section to bed, where our President reminded us of upcoming Hertfordshire Federation events.

Our next meeting on **8 October** will be an open meeting featuring speaker Mike Barbakoff, who will tell us all about the history of Bletchley Park during WWII. This has a local connection as there was a Y station on Woodcock Hill which intercepted messages and sent them on to Bletchley. We look forward to welcoming many visitors to this meeting, but please do contact jean.thomas@btinternet.com if you hope to join us.

Christine Nutton, Vice President

From the Registers

Baptism: 11 August 2024 - Elsie Delilah
Bloomfield

Marriage: 31 August 2024 - Harvey Lawrence
Devereux and
Charlotte Brooks Atkins



St Leonard's Flower Festival 2024

Friday 11 to Sunday 13 October

Friday 11 October at 6.00pm

Opening ceremony by Annie Brewster JP, the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, with refreshments and entertainment

Saturday 12 October: 10.00am - 5.00pm

Flower Festival open, with refreshments, and quilt raffle tickets on sale

Sunday 13 October: 12.00 - 4.00pm

Flower Festival open, with refreshments, and quilt raffle tickets on sale

Sunday 13 October at 4.00pm:

Festival Choral Evensong with the choir of St Saviour's Church

Monday 14 October at 10.00am:

Rededication of the War Memorial and Lychgate by the Bishop of Hertford.

Please gather outside on the south side of the Garden of Rest.



Our PCC Secretary, Kathy Tilney, has kindly made and donated this beautiful quilt to be raffled during the Flower Festival. Tickets will be available in church.

The theme of this year's Flower Festival is: Remembering with Thanksgiving

Focus on Craft Church

Craft Church is usually held from 10am to noon on the third Saturday of the month, although we also have some events at special times like Christmas and Easter.



We usually work around a theme, perhaps a Bible story or seasonal celebrations. In September our theme was 'Autumn' and activities included leaf printing, making an apple tree from fir cones, leaf hedgehogs and autumn collages. We always have a 'cooking' activity, which usually involves decorating a ready-made cupcake or cookie. This is always the most popular activity!



Focus on Craft Church (cont)

Craft Church takes place inside the church, with tables spread around the aisles and in the Roland King Room at the back. We begin with a quick introduction and then the children choose their first activity. Halfway through the morning we stop for a drink and a biscuit, then back to choose another activity. Towards the end of our session Wendy, our vicar, talks to the children and reads them a relevant story.



We encourage children of all ages to attend, with their parents, and the adults are welcome to have a go at the activities! Why not come along and join us one Saturday morning?

The next two dates are:
Saturday 19 October and
Saturday 23 November.

Krystyna Mitchell and Kathy Tilney

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**ST. ALBANS
CATHEDRAL**

Jersey Farm Community Centre Intergenerational Community Breakfast St Albans Community Pantry Team

We wanted to let you know of our collaboration with Harvesters Playgroup, where we will be serving hot breakfast to both parents and locals at **Jersey Farm Community Centre every Friday from 10.00am to 11.30am.**

We would be very thankful for any volunteer help. We were approached by Zoe who has been running the session for a few years and is now struggling to keep the playgroup running. We provide the ingredients for the breakfast for free, Zoe continues to manage the play activities but we would welcome help with hosting. The intergenerational meals model has thus far proved to work well for us at Fleetville Community Centre, Cottonmill Community Centre and St Luke's Church.

We are keen to make this service a real community gem. **At present 12% of our emergency food box recipients are residents of Jersey Farm,** so we are hoping to make an impact on social isolation that food insecurity brings and improve food literacy.

We look forward to your visit!

**St Albans Community
Pantry Team**

Rescued Menu
Pay As You Feel

COMMUNITY BRUNCH
All dishes have been prepared using locally rescued ingredients and lovingly cooked by our volunteers.

JERSEY FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE
EVERY FRIDAY · 10AM TO 11.30AM

MAINS
Breakfast Burger
(halal/plant sausage, egg, tomatoes, mushroom)
Selection of Pastries
Selection of Cereals

BOTTOMLESS DRINKS
Tea/Coffee
Hot Chocolate
Milk for children

#Lovefoodhatewaste

St. Albans
Community
Pantry

PARISH COUNCIL SUPPLEMENT

(ABRIDGED DRAFT MINUTES)

AT THE MEETING OF SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2024, THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED:

TO RECEIVE AND FORMALLY ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE-
Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Wells and Chalkley.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There was none.

TO APPROVE THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 JULY 2024

The minutes were duly approved.

Questions to Officers

There was none.

Public Participation

There was none.

CLERK'S REPORTS

Monthly Accounts

Members reviewed a schedule of creditor payments for the period 11 July to 14 August 2024, it having been previously circulated. It was unanimously resolved that payment of this schedule, made on 16 August is ratified by Members.

Also reviewed was a schedule of creditor payments for the period 15 August to 11 September 2024. It was unanimously resolved that Members approve payment of this schedule on 13 September 2024.

Community First Responders

Three First Responder volunteers kindly joined the meeting to provide more information about their organisation and the work it carries out locally and across the district (in which there are eleven First Responders). It was explained that the ambulance service alerts them at the same time as an ambulance is despatched because they're usually most local to any incident. Questions were asked and responded to before they were sincerely thanked for the extraordinary work they do.

Note: Councillor Twidell joined the meeting during the above presentation

Street Name Suggestions – land between Hopkins Crescent and the former Baptist Chapel, St Albans Road, Sandridge

Having been approached by the District Council, on behalf of Hightown Housing Association, Members considered potential street names for the new Close on land between Hopkins Crescent and the former Baptist Chapel. One was put forward by Cllr Wells – Edward Warner VC, who was born in St Albans and died at Ypres in 1915. The suggested name therefore was agreed as Warner Close. It was unanimously resolved to submit this for consideration.

Note: This suggestion has now been adopted for use.

Flowers

An application by a local family business to sell flowers from a vehicle in the Council's car park between Marks & Spencer and Marshalswick Community Centre was discussed at some length. After this discussion it was proposed by Cllr Hale, seconded by Cllr Reid and resolved to approve the request for a trial period of six months, this subject to the licensing authority, St Albans District Council, awarding a licence to trade. Also that the Clerk would establish the rate of any rental charged by the District Council for the pitch used on St Peter's Street, any rental charged at this location not to exceed that sum.

Playground /Sports Installations

The PACE Officer updated Members on the progress of installations and renovations initiated through the Sports and Recreation Committee. Also noted were the new improved Christmas lights at the front of Marshalswick Community Centre.

External audit 2023/24

Members noted that the Parish Council's External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn, has completed the 2023/24 external audit with no issues requiring attention or recommendations made. The office team were congratulated for their work.

Sandridge Parish Council's Risk Management Policy

Following electronic circulation of this policy it was unanimously resolved to re-adopt the policy as circulated on 9 August for review in September 2025.

Safety of Lithium Ion Batteries

Members discussed an email received regarding safety issues around lithium ion batteries, particularly in scooters and ebikes. The Council was asked to consider supporting a campaign to introduce a Bill to improve the safe use and disposal of these batteries. It was resolved not to formally support the draft Bill at this stage without being sufficiently well informed.

Matters of Note

- New carpet has been fitted in the Parish Office and reception hall.
- Following the approval of funding, the PACE Officer is seeking three quotes for a full structural survey of Marshalswick Community Centre.
- The proposed bike rack to the front of Marshalswick Library has not yet received approval. The library manager is hopeful of this happening soon.
- Timber planters have been installed at the entrance to Marshalswick Community Centre to provide a bright welcome to Hall users and their guests.
- The obsolete Christmas tree lights to the front of Marshalswick Community Centre have been removed with new, brighter sets replacing them.
- The new Quadrant bus shelter (opposite the community garden) and planters are now on order through Herts County Council. Cllr Chalkley has been liaising with officers.
- BOAT 3 (Byway Open to All Traffic) running through Bentsley Spinney has been resurfaced by the County Council.
- Filming will take place at Marshalswick Community Centre on Friday 20 September for a scene in a new ITV drama called 'Code of Silence'. It is likely that a number of parking spaces will need to be reserved for film crew on the day.

COUNCILLOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Grant Applications

There have been no grant applications this month.

Woolam Park – Pre-Application Engagement

Cllr White provided a verbal update from a meeting he attended on 19 August between the District Council and the development company involved in Woolam Park.

St Leonard's Flower Festival

Cllr Roberts requested the sum of £100 towards Sandridge Parish Council's contribution to this year's Festival, the theme of which is Remembrance and Thanksgiving. It was proposed by Cllr Leonard, seconded by Cllr Hale and resolved to approve funding of up to £100 for this purpose.

Meetings of Committees

- No committee meetings
- Planning Committee – see below

MATTERS OF NOTE ARISING SINCE THE CIRCULATION OF THE AGENDA

- County Councillor Hale reminded Members that local community groups are able to apply for road salt through himself or County Councillor Allison Wren. There is a criteria that must be met.
- Cllr Hale reminded Members that Herts County Council will be holding a Growth and Environment Engagement Event on 26 Sept between 6pm and 7.30pm. Attendees may participate in person or virtually.
- Cllr Ahmed informed the meeting that Wheatfields School will be holding a public fireworks event on 3 November at the school.
- Cllr Chachulski and other residents have met with the Senior Deputy Headteacher of Sandringham School to have positive discussions around the issues of local parking.

PLANNING MATTERS

The Planning Committee met on 22 July, 12 August and 2 September 2024.

Planning applications commented on since the last Full Council meeting are:

- 23 Windmill Avenue, St Albans, AL4 9SH – Planning Application: 5/2024/1072
- Land at Hatfield Aerodrome, Off Hatfield, Herts, St Albans, AL4 OLU. Appeal: APP/M1900/W/24/3346607
- 1 Slimmons Drive AL4 9AN 5/2024/1406
- 18 Hazelmere Road AL4 9RW 5/2024/1408

Please note: Planning applications received at the Parish Office from the Planning Authority *after* the Parish Council agenda has been published may also be discussed at the meeting as may applications of complexity or applications likely to impact heavily on the Green Belt.

SUGGESTIONS AND/OR MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

There was none.

**Next meeting date:
9 October 2024 at 7.30pm
Marshalswick Community Centre**

St Isidore

Patron Saint of Harvest

Feast Day: 15 May



Photo by Kelly Craig Walling

St Isidore the Farmer (1070-1130) is considered the patron saint of farmers and rural communities.

Isidore was born in 1070 to a peasant family near Madrid in Spain. He was baptised Isidore in honour of the famous Archbishop of Seville. As a young boy, he went to work on the estate of Juan de Vargas, a wealthy landowner from the nearby town of Torrelaguana. Isidore married a poor girl, Maria Torribia. Sadly, their only child, a son, died in infancy.

Isidore's life was a model of simple Christian charity and faith. He prayed while at work. He shared what he had with the poor, even his meals - he often gave them more than he had for himself.

Maria was a simple and devout woman, who herself was later canonised.

A story told about Isidore is that he often came to work later than his fellow labourers because he would first attend Mass in the morning. Yet his work never suffered and he always completed the chores required of him. It was said two angels appeared and joined their pious companion, one on either side of Isidore, when he was ploughing the fields.

St Isidore is usually portrayed as a peasant with a sickle or staff, sometimes with an angel near him. He died in 1130 and was canonised in 1622. Along with Saints Ignatius of Loyola, Francis Xavier, Teresa of Avila and Philip Neri, he is known in Spain as one of the 'Five Saints'.

At the site of the house of his master, Juan de Vargas, in Madrid there is a museum: Museo de San Isidro. It houses temporary exhibitions on the history of Madrid, as well as on the life of the saint. Little of the original house remains, other than an old well from the 12th century, where legend has it a miracle occurred. While Isidore was working in the fields, Maria was at home, caring for their son, who fell into the well. The parents knelt by the well praying and as they prayed, the water level rose and the child appeared, alive and sitting on the surface of the water.

Publication notes

The magazine is edited by Rosamund Adlard, with many thanks to all our contributors. Please send any contributions or photographs for the next issue by
14 October at the latest please
to:


news.stleonards@gmail.com

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67 The Quadrant

Marshalswick

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Tel: 01727 812244

Treeves House

52 Shenley Road

Borehamwood

WD6 1DS

Tel: 020 8953 1444



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Church Directory

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Wendy's days off are Wednesday to Friday

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Kathy Tilney kathleentilney@hotmail.com 848136

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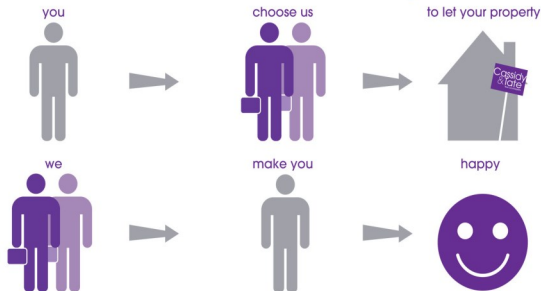


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