



St Paul's, Quarndon, Parish Newsletter

February/March 2018

From the Vicarage

Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me. Psalm 51: 10

Just before Christmas, we were saddened to learn of the deaths of two longstanding church members; Colin Raybould and Hazel Brecknell and so our New Year began with their memorial services as we came together to give thanks for their lives. Both families prepared wonderful tributes and it was apparent that each of these individuals had through their lives donated many hours of volunteer service to charitable organisations: in Colin's case leading the Monday group of House volunteers at Kedleston Hall (National Trust) and Hazel's commitment to the Guiding movement and her leadership of the Quarndon Girl Guides unit in particular. Members of these organisations were present and it was a wonderful tribute to Colin and Hazel, to see so many give thanks for their invaluable contributions.

A few days ago I attended a meeting called by members of St Paul's church who have made the very difficult decision to close 'Edward Bear', our baby & pre-school group that met weekly in the Church, and our 'Messy Church' meetings which were held once a month in the Church Hall. These decisions are never taken lightly, but it was felt the attendance at Edward Bear had dwindled to such low numbers of participants, that despite having volunteers to staff it, it just wasn't viable, so for the time being Edward Bear has gone into hibernation. Messy church on the other hand has been well received, but attendance has been sporadic and a limited pool of volunteers available to help has led to its present closure. However, our monthly Sunday school 'SHINE' continues to be well attended as are our All Age Sunday services. Those present at the meeting though were unsure as to what was really required in Quarndon. Did our families want a gathering place for those with pre-schoolers and babies or was there already sufficient provision elsewhere? Do our young people want or need evening activities or again are they already sufficiently provided for? What are the real needs of the under 18's living in Quarndon?

As a church family we are also aware of the vulnerability and isolation of older people in the area and whilst we have some resources to offer, we need help in identifying the priorities. Lunch clubs, fellowship groups, healthy living workshops, someone to do a bit of shopping? The Hall is very well used for all sorts of different groups, so where are the gaps? In conjunction with church members from St Nicholas in Allestree we are going to be running a Lent group offering some training and resources for those interested in learning more and possible pastoral care. Details about these groups can be found in both churches or please contact me for more information.

Wearing another hat on my head, as a governor of Curzon school, I am keen for those links between the church and school to be further developed. The Parish Council are also keen to pull together village organisations so we can develop a shared sense of purpose and vision and perhaps help resource each other and promote events and fundraisers. It was great to see so many people come together for the Christmas Tree festival and to see the trees sponsored and decorated by so many of the different local groups, charities and businesses run from Quarndon and the surrounding areas. A big thank you to all those involved in that event and I hope we can continue to join together.

Finally, somewhat unusually this year, Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent and a time when Christians undertake or resolve to give things up, so may fast or abstain from alcohol and chocolate, or take on new habits like daily prayer times, is on February 14th which is of course celebrated as Valentines' Day. So in our household we may have to breakfast on chocolate to celebrate and then begin Lent after lunch. In many places the practice of 'ashing' is still common, an ash cross is placed upon a person's head to symbolise humility and our own frailty, these words are said, *'Remember that you are but dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.'* There will be a 12.30 lunchtime communion service in The Chapel at St Nick's on Wednesday 14th which will include the imposition of ashes, open to anyone who'd like to join us for the beginning of Lent.

If you'd like to have a go at maintaining a regular time for prayer, the Church of England have got resources and apps available to download, 'Daily Prayer', 'Time to Pray', 'Reflections for Daily Prayer', #LiveLent and from other groups 'Lentsanity' and 'Sacred Space' are worth having a looking at too.

Yours in faith,
Becky Mathew

Vicar St Nicholas' Allestree & Priest in charge St Paul's Quarndon
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FAMILY OCCASIONS

In their bereavement our prayers are with the families of Colin Raybould, Hazel Brecknell and Pat Meynell.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR FEB/MARCH

Date	Time	Service
February	4	10.00 am Holy Communion
	11	10.00 am All Age Worship
	14	12.30 pm Holy Communion at St Nick's
	17	12.30 pm Lent Lunch at St Nick's
	18	10.00 am Holy Communion & SHINE
	24	12.30 pm Lent Lunch at Broadway
	25	10.00 am Morning Praise
March	3	12.30 pm Lent Lunch at St John's
	4	10.00 am Holy Communion
	10	12.30 pm Lent Lunch at St Paul's
	11	10.00 am All Age Worship – Mothering Sunday
	15	7.30 pm PCC
	17	12.30 pm Lent Lunch at Holy Family
		1.00 pm Wedding – Langton & Chorley
	18	10.00 am Holy Communion & SHINE
	24	12.30pm Lent Lunch at St Edmund's
	25	10.00am Morning Praise-Palm Sunday
	29	7.00 pm Maundy Thursday service
	30	11.30 am ACT Good Fri day service at Park Farm
		2.00 pm An Hour by the Cross
		7.00 pm Service of Meditations & Readings at St Nick's

SHINE (Sunday School) meets in the lower church hall from 9.45am on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

CHURCH NEWS

Our next **Mini-outings** will be to Meynell Langley Garden Centre Café on Thursday 15th February at 2.15pm and to the Willow Tree Café at Willington Marina on Tuesday 27th March at 2.15pm. All are welcome and lifts can be arranged if needed – please telephone Jill Reed (see back page) by the day before the outing to arrange a lift.

The next meeting of the **PCC** will be on Thursday 15th March at 7.30pm in the church.

Christian Aid 'Enough for Everyone' appeal: Many thanks to everyone who donated to this appeal in church over Christmas. We raised £583.50, plus Gift Aid of £125.50, making a total of £709 from 23 envelopes.

And a **HUGE THANK YOU** to all our sponsors, decorators, stewards, bakers, coffee-makers and musicians and to all our visitors for making our **Christmas Tree Festival** such a memorable occasion. It was a great success, both in terms of a community event and as a fund-raiser. People came from near and far to visit the festival and everyone was very positive about it. We also raised approximately £1,500 for our church renovation appeal.

The votes for the best dressed tree were too close to call, so we awarded prizes to two trees: 'Christmas in the Garden' by Alison MacGregor and 'Helping the Community to sparkle' by the Brownies. Many congratulations to them. (*See our website for photos*)

We still have some items in church that were left behind at the festival, including a child's camera and a man's knitted hat. If you would like to claim them please contact one of the churchwardens.

Lent Lunches 2018

St Paul's, along with other members of Allestree Churches Together, supports the needy in Nagpur, India by means of the Social Services Institute in Nagpur. During Lent our churches host a light lunch on Saturdays, where all are welcome to share in food and fellowship to raise funds for the Nagpur Institute.

Each lunch starts at 12.30pm, dates as follows:

February 17 th	St Nicholas, Allestree
February 24 th	Broadway Baptist
March 3 rd	St John's, Park Farm
March 10 th	St Paul's, Quarndon
March 17 th	Holy Family, Blenheim Parade
March 24 th	St Edmund's, Allestree



Choice of soups, ham or cheese roll, fruit and tea/ coffee
£3.00 adults, £1 children, payable on the door
Cake and plant stalls

The following is an extract from a recent email from Aradhana, Director of the Church of North India Social Services Institute (CNISSI):

“Thank you very much for your donation of INR 2,95,891. Your funds are a great help to CNISSI to conduct various projects for the underprivileged ones. Bishop Paul Dupare has given the date of 31st January for the official inauguration of the Packhouse, and also the groundbreaking prayers for the construction of 880sq. ft. Hall for which Nagpur Link has sent the funds.”

At the Lent lunches there will, as usual, be a display of work/ projects taking place in Nagpur using funds raised by the Link.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St Edmund's Handbell Group

Invite you to share tea, coffee and cakes on Monday evening 26th February 2018. Please come along to St Edmund's church, Allestree on that evening, anytime between 7.30 and 8.30 when you will be welcomed with refreshments while you listen to our handbells. There will be an opportunity for you to have a go if you wish!

Quarndon Cricket Club.

We wish you all a very HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The 2018 season is fast approaching and now is the time to mention a few events for the future.

Keep a lookout for the Car Boots in the Spring, Quizzes starting from end of January, and our varied social events. QCC has been holding a speaker dinner for over 30years and this year it is at Pride Park on Friday 23rd March. Contact any member or visit our website on qccevents.co.uk or quarndon.play-cricket.com All details and contacts are on these sites. We now have our own Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/quarndoncc/?fres=ts>

Most importantly we would like to see you at the ground. It is the centre of the most picturesque village and ground in South Derbyshire. Bar and refreshments available.

Quarndon Pre-School

Has places available for children from the age of 2. We are also looking to employ an experienced qualified level 2 or 3 pre-school assistant. If anyone is interested please email me:

quarndonpre-school@hotmail.co.uk

Dawn Mason-Windsor

MONTHLY ORGANISATIONS

Quarndon Friendship Group meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month in Quarndon church hall.

Thursday 8th February at 2.30pm will be a Social Afternoon.

Thursday 22nd February at 2.30pm writer and photographer Ashley Franklin's talk entitled "My Derbyshire Life" is about his work at Derbyshire Life magazine.

Thursday 8th March at 2.30pm will be a Social Afternoon.

Thursday 22nd March at 2.30pm our guests Mary and David Connell, who lead a Christian puppetry team, will explain how they became involved in puppetry, give us a demonstration and explain the work they do in schools and elsewhere.

Women's Institute

We meet on the first Thursday of most months. Most meetings are currently held in Members' houses. Please 'phone 550478 for details.

On 1st February at 2.15 the W I's speaker is Gerald Price who will talk about the Woodland Trust. On the 1st March Alan Hopkin will talk about the History of Pop Music.

Ecclesbourne Barn Dance Club meets fortnightly on Tuesdays 7.30pm at Quarndon church hall.

A fun and friendly way of keeping fit. New members, including beginners, assured of a warm welcome.

Enquiries to Rene Dobson 558908 or Peter Parkin 558571.

Church Hall bookings

The church hall is available for private or group hire and this can now be done through our church website. Just visit www.stpaulsquarndon.org.uk and click on 'Hall Hire' to complete an online booking form.

Alternatively you can telephone or email Pat Glover (see below).

ST PAUL'S, QUARNDON, DIRECTORY

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Church website: www.stpaulsquarndon.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaulsquarndon

(Please 'like' our Facebook page!)

The deadline for copy for the newsletter is the 16th of the previous month, so copy for the April/May edition must be with the editor no later than **16th March**, please.