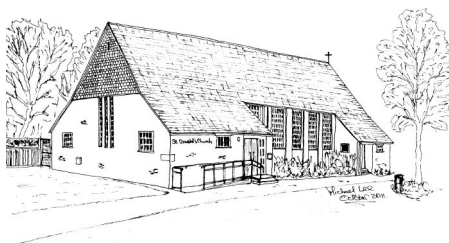




The Parish Magazine of St. Oswald's Church



**October
and
November
2025**

Croxley Green



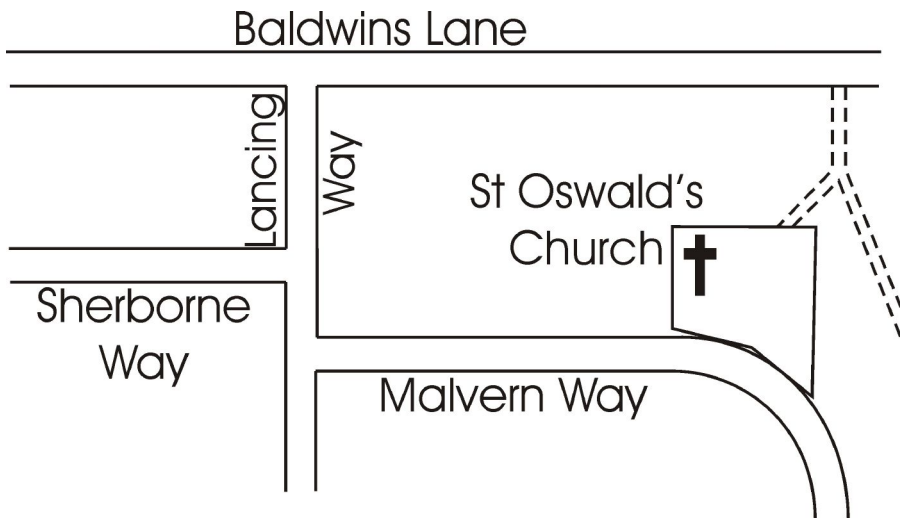


St Oswald's Church – who are we?

*We are part of the Church of
England in the St. Alban's
Diocese.*

website: stoswaldschurch.org.uk

Facebook: StOswaldsCG



You will find us at Malvern Way, Croxley Green, WD3 3QL,
just off Baldwins Lane.

There is a direct footpath link from Baldwins Lane into the
rear of the church grounds, and car park access from
Malvern Way.

The office entrance is at the back of the church hall.

Harvest at St Oswald's



This year harvest began in July when the combine harvester arrived in the fields beyond Little Green Lane and has continued since then with bountiful crops of fruit and vegetables. This seems to have been a good year.

We gave God thanks for Creation at our Spotlight service on 21st September and learnt about the measures being taken by Hounslow Council to combat the threat of climate change. The Church of England is also taking action to minimise the church's impact by reaching Net Zero Carbon by 2030. You can find a short video about this on the Church of England website at

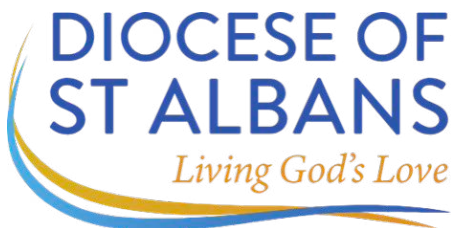
<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/read-latest-net-zero-carbon-impact-report>

What's On and Dates for Diaries pp 18-19, Prayers p 26,
Puzzles p 31, Contacts p 36

Our **Harvest Festival** takes place on Sunday 5th October with a Harvest Breakfast at 9.00am to which you are invited followed by a Family Service at 10.00am. This year our gifts of groceries etc. will go for New Hope's work with homeless people in the Watford area - see page 10.

Rewriting Futures

We will also be supporting the **Bishop's Harvest Appeal**. This year the Diocese has chosen **Mission Direct** as its designated charity. Mission Direct helps some of the world's poorest communities gain access to education. Their work in Uganda and Zambia is focused on building schools. Within a year, the project we will be supporting - called Rewrite Their Future - will serve over 2,900 children of whom 1,700 will be benefitting from new classrooms.



At a time when 250 million children globally are not in school, this is a small but vital way we can help change that reality. Thanks to the generosity of supporters over the last 20 years, Mission Direct have



been able to build 49 schools. Nearly all of these are still open and have grown substantially.

The children who access these schools are given the opportunity to Rewrite Their Future because they are receiving the opportunity of a completely different life. They gain hope and aspirations that would have been out of reach if they could not attend a school.

Our donations help Mission Direct continue this vital work – supporting a range of activities to Rewrite Their Future. Whether that involves laying bricks, funding feeding programmes, providing teacher training or other forms of support – these all contribute to more children being able to go to school.

A Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, most gracious God,
for the beauty of earth and sky and sea;
for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers;
for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers.

We praise you for these good gifts,
and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity.
Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful
enjoyment of your abundant creation,
to the honour and glory of your Name,
now and for ever.

Amen.

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Mothers' Union Meeting – 7th August 2025

We had our yearly “Afternoon Tea” in the Church. Though there were very few of us it was a good afternoon with scones, jam or strawberries and cream and a variety of cakes with tea to drink. It is my way of thanking everyone for their support throughout the year. Our group always enjoys a chat and we came up with a few ideas for our meetings next year. Everyone agreed it was a lovely afternoon, with pleasant company and delicious eats.

Janet



Mothers' Union 11th September

This afternoon we had our own Richard talking to us and showing us slides of his holiday in Kyiv, in Ukraine in 2003. Richard and his friend treated themselves to stay in the five-star Premier Palace Hotel located in the heart of the capital of Ukraine. The luxurious hotel is more than 110 years old. They visited in February and it looked very cold with snow on the ground and them wearing their thick warm coats, hats and gloves. We saw the Independence Monument erected to commemorate Ukraine's Independence from the Soviet Union and it is the symbol of Ukrainian people's aspirations for freedom. It was unveiled August 2001. At the top of the 200 foot monument is the statue of the goddess Berehynia, goddess of Prosperity.

Another slide showed St Michaels Golden Dome Monastery in Kyiv, a very ornate building with the blue and white topped by the

many Golden Domes dedicated to Saint Michael the Archangel. It is located on the bank of the Dnipro River.

They also visited the site of the Chernobyl Power Station Disaster showing the devastation to the buildings and surrounding area. They had a guide drive them the 60 miles from Kyiv. Pripyat City is very close to the Chernobyl power plant, about 2 miles, and was built in 1970 to house the workers of the Chernobyl power plant



Richard in front of the destroyed power station at Chernobyl

and other employees. After the disaster in 1986, the city of Pripjat was evacuated to the newly built city of Slavutych. The city was transformed into a desolate “city forest” within the Chernobyl Exclusion zone. Pripjat is now a ghost town, very quiet and eerie place, preserved as a time capsule of Soviet life and is an active site for research and tourism. It serves as a frozen snapshot with

abandoned apartments, schools, and an amusement park with a Ferris Wheel that was never opened.

We saw photos of the destroyed and devastated hospital with all the damage just left as it was. Many people did not want to move out of their homes and stayed despite the dangers. They were able to visit a lady who still lives in her home, but it was quite primitive and did not look as hygienic as one would like. They were invited in for tea and something to eat which I don't think they were too impressed with! But it just shows the poor conditions they still live in.

When they left the area they had to put their hands in a machine to check the radiation levels but they were fine.

We discussed whether all the buildings would still be standing, with the ongoing war, and no one had heard of any bombings etc in this part of Ukraine. It would be devastating if such beautiful and majestic buildings had been destroyed.

Thank you, Richard for coming along to show us your holiday trip, a very historic area to visit.

Janet

Next Meeting: Alan Restarick talking about his Bee Keeping Activities.

The Old Money Quiz – Reminder the closing date is 23rd October – please put answer sheets in the Box at the back of Church labelled Money Quiz. Thank you for taking part.

A CROXLEY RAMBLER'S DIARY

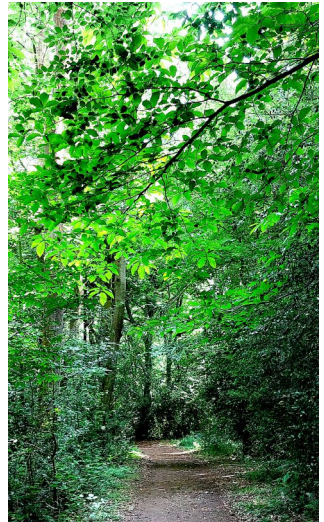
Brian Thomson writes of an eventful long summer weekend.

Friday 1st August **Bats**

About a quarter to nine in the evening, I walked down to Mill lock. It was still light but overcast and the clouds looked a bit threatening. Fortunately the rain held off because the Friends of Croxley Common Moor had arranged a 'bat walk'. This is a popular annual event and numbers were deliberately kept small. There were about a dozen of us plus two women members of the local bat group. One of them provided a refuge for injured bats. We were issued with bat detector machines in groups of two or three. The machine receives bat echo-location calls and turns them into sounds humans can hear. But the machines must be set at the appropriate frequency. 45khz was recommended to hear the most common species in that spot, the common pipistrelle. We set off along the river bank and it was not long before we picked up the first calls - a series of rapid clicks - from bats that were otherwise invisible in the gloaming. One of our leaders had an infra red torch which she shone across the water picking out the rapid movement of several animals hawking insects up and down the river. The talk, in hushed tones, turned to bat protection and worries about the Government's plans to relax the law to make construction projects easier. It was a fascinating evening.

Saturday 2nd August **Woods**

The morning was bright and sunny, as has often been the case this summer. I walked up Little Green Lane where the sun had encouraged a red admiral butterfly to settle on the track. Then suddenly there was a flash of orange and a Jersey tiger moth flew onto the hedgerow. At rest their wings are a striking pattern of black and cream covering the orange underwings. Several people have mentioned seeing one in their garden recently. They seem to be increasingly common - probably climate change again.



The cool shade of the woods was welcome. Dell wood, owned by the Woodland Trust, is popular with Croxley people, especially dog-walkers and joggers. Since covid I have noticed new paths have been made, which means, unfortunately, less space for bluebells. Another side effect of greater footfall is litter, especially plastic, which is not good for wildlife. Even worse is the risk of fire. In spite of signs to the contrary some people have lit fires in the wood which risk setting off a conflagration.

Further on, Merlins and Harrocks woods are quieter places. At this time of year birdsong is not as prominent. The nesting season is over and our summer migrants are on their way south. But it is still a lovely, relaxing place to be.

Sunday 3rd August **Family Service**

For the last few years St Oswald's has taken the August family service out of doors. This year we met outside the Kitchen on Watford Road for a service on Common Moor. We had borrowed litter-pickers from the Parish Council and began our time together collecting litter from Mill Lane and the woods above the canal. We met again at the bridge over the Gade and Fabian Hiscock joined us to give a short history of the Moor, emphasising how special it is, never having been cultivated. Our celebration of the natural world culminated with a short service of songs and prayers led by Tony.

Tuesday 5th August

Local History

Another bright morning with a strong breeze.

Thankfully we only caught the edge of storm Floris that battered Northern Ireland and Scotland. I was in Sarratt to join an archaeological dig organised by Wendy Morrison of the



Chilterns Heritage and Archaeology Partnership. This was in the field running down to the Chess from the big house at Goldingtons. The location has always seemed interesting from a historical point of view because the field has terraces, known as lynchets. And of course it is close to Sarratt's medieval church and water mill. This year's dig aimed to investigate the possibility of a Roman road running across the site. A scan of the field with LiDAR had indicated a possible route running diagonally down the slope.

This was my first time at an archaeological dig. Others were a lot more experienced, ranging from A-level students to one person who had excavated at Luxor in Egypt. The previous week the volunteers had opened up two trenches roughly 15 metres long by 3 metres wide, across



the putative route of the road. One was located at the top of the hill, near the ha-ha in front of Goldingtons and the other at the bottom near the stream. The turves lay in a mound alongside a spoil heap. The subsoil is very stony here - not so different from many Croxley gardens. Our task was to take off a layer of the subsoil so that the archaeologists could judge whether we had uncovered anything promising. We used mattocks to loosen the top three or four inches and then shovelled and barrowed the spoil onto the heap nearby. This took most of the morning. In the process those of us in the top trench found bits of broken tile, probably Tudor, and some nails used to fix them. Then after lunch we used small trowels to remove the loose material.

At the end of the dig I returned to hear the results. The excavation had established that there was no Roman road across the field. However, it had produced good dating for the terracing of the field in the medieval period, so definitely not a Roman vineyard. Finds from the dig included a prehistoric arrowhead, Roman and Anglo-Saxon pottery as well as more recent artefacts. We were left with the tantalising suggestion of a Roman villa on the site of Goldingtons for investigation next year.

New Hope

Frazer Ansell of New Hope spoke at our family service on 7th September about the charity that we will be supporting at harvest time this year.

New Hope was set up almost 50 years ago by Janet Hosier and Sheila Meaning, two parishioners at St Mary's Church in Watford who were growing increasingly concerned about the growing number of rough sleepers who congregated in the churchyard. With the help of a local GP, Dr Tim Robson, they set up New Hope and a soup kitchen operating out of the church.

After a while they invested in two disused coaches and had them delivered to some wasteland in Whippendell Road, Watford. They used the coaches as a base in which to serve breakfast to the town's rough sleepers.

Word grew, as did their workload...

New Hope also grew quickly into a busy charity run by a small management team but driven by incredible volunteers and the public's goodwill.

Some years later, the two coaches were replaced with a custom-built building, The Haven. Even back then, the team had an environmental conscience and the building boasted a grass roof to ensure it had a minimal carbon footprint. It was a heck of a job to mow the lawn though!

New Hope services

New Hope's Haven now provides rough sleepers with a hot shower, change of clothes, cooked breakfast, packed lunch and medical and housing advice every week day.

At our Sanctuary we provide year-round emergency accommodation for 28 homeless people each week.

We also operate an emergency night shelter for up to 30 people from October to March. Our outreach team goes out at night to locate rough sleepers. We offer support, snacks, hot drinks and clean clothes and bedding.



We have a specialist unit supporting homeless people who are recovering from addiction.

We have a number of houses of multiple occupation where former homeless people are now transitioning back into regular life.

We provide tenancy support for 28 young families who have experienced homeless.

New Hope also has a horticultural therapy and creative wellbeing service called Cultivate. It recognises and shares the benefits of being in the great outdoors and of reconnecting with nature.

Our top line figures

Last year:

- 484 people received support at a New Hope service
 - 273 people received a cooked breakfast and packed lunch at the Haven
 - 18,151 nights of accommodation were provided, giving 133 people a safe place to stay for at least one night
 - Our 24/7 Emergency Helpline answered 1,003 calls from people experiencing homelessness or seeking advice.
 - 89 people improved their mental health through Cultivate.
- Earlier this year Cultivate received royal approval with a visit from the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire.

New Hope is so extremely grateful for the community of St Oswald's church to be supporting us during this year's Harvest Festival. You will be helping stock our larders for the winter night shelter which will open in the middle of October. Every donation made will help make a difference to the lives of people who have reached absolute rock bottom. It will help give them hope for a better tomorrow.

We especially appreciate:

- Non-perishable groceries (tins, pasta, rice, cereal, sauces, snacks)
- Drinks (bottled water, long-life milk, juice, tea, coffee)
- Toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, shampoo, sanitary products)
- Baby & children's essentials (nappies, wipes, baby food, formula)
- Household basics (toilet rolls, washing-up liquid, laundry powder, cleaning products)

ST. OSWALD'S JUMBLE



SALE



Saturday 11th Oct
2.00pm - 4.00pm

Entry £1

CLOTHES SHOES TOYS
BRIC-A-BRAC
JEWELLERY and more.....

REFRESHMENTS in the Church

***Please bring any donations of items
to sell to the Church Hall Mon 6th -
Fri 10th Oct from 7.00pm - 8.00 pm***

**SORRY - NO FURNITURE, BOOKS
DVD's OR ELECTRICAL ITEMS**

Malvern Way WD3 3QL
more info from 07790 330981



St Oswald's Parochial Church Council update September 2025

The PCC met on 23rd
September.

Safeguarding was high on the agenda as usual. The Safeguarding team has surveyed PCC members about Culture and Leadership in the church. Various suggestions were made which will be followed up. One comment was that we all know each other well, and if an accusation were made it might be hard to believe. Our Safeguarding Officer emphasised that If there is an accusation it would be treated in strict confidence and, most importantly, it must be reported. All Safeguarding posters have contact numbers and there is a 'concerns and allegations information poster' at the back of the church. Victims, survivors and perpetrators will receive support.

The PCC thanked the Churchwardens and all the others who are working hard to keep the life of St Oswald's going during the vacancy. We looked forward to the outcome of the recruitment exercise which should be known soon after this magazine is published.

The PCC agreed that a number of changes to church facilities should be investigated. These are

- the possible temporary removal of one of the pews to make more space at the back of church for Cafe O and Donut Club activities;
- replacement of the wireless microphones;
- a possible display of the various designs of kneelers on the external wall behind the servery.

The PCC agreed that fundraising for the Parish Project in 2026 should go towards upgrading the facilities in the hall kitchen. The hall is an important resource for the local community and the PCC is consulting hall users about the kind of facilities needed.

The Churchwardens would be glad to receive comments from members of the congregation on these ideas.

Brian Thomson
PCC Secretary

Copies of PCC minutes are available on request to those on the Electoral Roll from the secretary, Brian Thomson,
secretary@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

CROXLEY PARISH NURSE

Contact Details

Cathy Scarborough
croxleyparishnurseecathy@gmail.com
07562 515791



Eleri from the Methodist church writes

Thank you so much for helping to make September 17th's Churches Together fundraiser a success: £376.00 was raised for the Parish Nurse Project. It was a delight to see so many people there.

HOLIDAY CLUB 2025



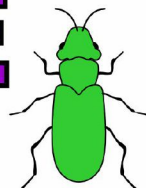
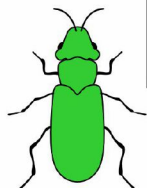
**The
Children's
Society**

**No child
should feel
alone**

Christmas cards for the Children's Society will be available as usual this year. David Warman will display the designs in church in October so you can order them.



FAMILY BEETLE DRIVE



ST OSWALD'S CHURCH HALL
Malvern Way WD3 3QL

SAT 15th NOVEMBER
5.45pm - 8.00pm

TICKETS £7.00 each
SUPPER INCLUDED
Under 5's FREE

RAFFLE & LOTS OF FUN

more info from 07790 330981 or
valraksha@hotmail.co.uk

WHAT'S ON?



Services

Holy Communion on Sundays 8 am and 10 am, except first Sunday in the month when there is a Family Service at 10 am.

Holy Communion on Wednesdays at 11 am.

(During the current vacancy, as advertised in the fortnightly newsletter, some services may be Services of the Word rather than Holy Communion.)

Evening Prayer on the first Sunday at 4 pm

Sunday School meets each Sunday, except first Sunday in the month, at 10 am

Café O

Monday mornings (except Bank Holidays) in the church from 9.00 am to 12 noon



Mothers' UNION meets on the second Thursday of each month at 2.30 pm in the church.
Christian care for families

9th Oct	'Introduction to Bee-Keeping'	Alan Restarick
13th Nov	Small Acts of Kindness	Lynne
12th Dec	Christmas celebration	

Men's Breakfast meets in the hall monthly on Saturdays at 7.45 am.

18th Oct	'The Emerald Isle'	Guy Parks
15th Nov	'Interesting Journeys continued'	John Malcolm
20th Dec	Christmas Quiz	Jon Cox

Donut Club for Year 7s

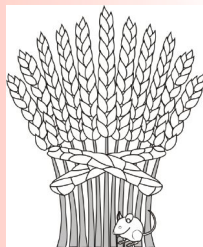
3.30 to 5pm on Fridays until 24th October and thereafter on the first Friday of each month in term time



Hot Dog Club for Year 8s

5.15 to 6.30pm on the first Friday each month in term time

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER



October

Sunday 5th

9.00am Harvest breakfast

10.00am Family Service

6.30pm Taizé service

Thursday 9th

2.30pm Mothers' Union

Saturday 11th

2 - 4.00pm Jumble Sale

Saturday 18th

7.45am Men's Breakfast

Sunday 19th

10.00am Spotlight Service, Canon Tim Bull

November

Sunday 2nd

10.00am Family Service

3.00pm All Souls' service

Sunday 9th

2.30pm Remembrance Service at All Saints'

Friday 14th

2 - 4.00pm Musical Memories, for those affected by dementia and their carers, Baptist Church

Saturday 15th

5.45 - 8.00pm Beetle Drive

Sunday 16th

10.00am Spotlight Service



DATES FOR DIARIES

December

Sunday 7th

10.00am Chringle Service

Christmas Pudding and Craft evening

Saturday 20th

5.00pm Churches Together Christmas procession

Sunday 21st

6.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday 24th

4.00pm Crib service

11.00pm Carols by the Choir

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Monday 25th

10.00am Christmas Day communion

HOLIDAY CLUB 2025

STOP THE PRESS

“THE GOOD NEWS” HAS GONE TO PRINT

Breaking news!! In July sixty five young apprentices started work at the St Oswald’s Church Newspaper “THE GOOD NEWS.” The children from reception to year six, learnt new skills of prayer and report writing and joke telling. They enjoyed lots of craft music and games.

We arrived on Wednesday to a bleating crisis. The police gave up their search after finding ninety nine sheep. This wasn’t good enough for our shepherd who hunted all night to find the missing sheep.



Where do sheep go to get their hair cut? The Baa Baas.

On Thursday “Builders got talent” was won by Ima Wiseman who built his house on solid ground.

What is an IG? A snow house without a loo.

Finally on Friday, the Croxley Allotment Society reported mixed results at their produce fair. The Judge declared “The best crops certainly came from the fertile soil.”

Why did the Sower win an award? Because he was outstanding in his field.

Yes, this was all from our fantastic week at Holiday Club. Based on running a newspaper, the children learnt about the parables that Jesus told. During the editorial session, our apprentices wrote prayers, news reports and jokes which they later read out at the afternoon worship. The older ones also performed a play about the Sower and the Seeds and even made their own costumes. A huge thank you to all forty-one volunteers who helped in so many ways. Plans are already in development for next summer's new magazine “The Weekly Miracle”

Remember **DON'T SNOOZE- READ THE GOOD NEWS**

News report by The Editor - Vanessa Mackay



Prayers written by our Apprentices

Jesus thank you for waking me up. Please stay with me while I go to new clubs, try new things and go on holiday.

Lord, I am excited today because I am at holiday club. Thank you for crafts and games and singing and for all my friends. It is a new day for a new adventure and for making new friends and meeting new people.

Jesus, bless the food we have eaten today. We think about those who don't have enough to eat. I am thankful for my food, family and friends. That our houses have a strong roof because it is helpful when it rains.

Dear Jesus, please give my cat an extra life. Thank you for my amazing dog. Thank you for all of the things that you give me. For nice clothes and home. I am thankful for life.

Hi Lord, it's me again, I just wanted to say thank you, that when we are lost you will find us, like you did for the lost sheep.

BAAAAA MEN.

HOMOEOPATHY



Lynn Williamson
Homoeopath
L.C.P.H., M.C.P.H., A.R.H.

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Rickmansworth, Herts., WD3 1DJ Telephone: 01923 896655**

St. Oswald's Church Kneelers.

*In recent years the church has removed a number of pews to make it a more flexible space for worship and other activities. The PCC has been considering what to do with the kneelers no longer accommodated in the pews. **Janet Staerck** provides a history of the kneelers and offers her thoughts about them.*



The original church kneelers were made from a blue plastic material and in the early nineties replacing them was discussed. They were splitting and really looked a bit of a mess.

As in 1997 the Church was celebrating its Diamond Jubilee, it was decided that one of the commemorative projects should be making new tapestry kneelers that could last for a hundred years. This task was undertaken by Pen Smith, Jane Brading and Jane Duke in the summer of 1995.

The initial idea was that two or three designs would be selected that could be adapted to include a dedication on the side panels to remember a loved one or a special occasion. The initial request to see if the project was feasible, was to see if people would donate to buy a kneeler and work them. A note was also put in the Church Magazine (1995) to see if anyone was in touch with former members of St. Oswald's who would like to donate or work a kneeler.

The initial response was very encouraging and, on the strength of

that, 144 kits were purchased. Nine different designs were chosen representing Christian symbols to offer both a wide choice and to cater for all levels of ability. The designs were, the Dove on a red background, the Three Fishes, A (alpha) & Ω (omega) with a yellow cross, Triquetra, White Cross in a yellow circle with a blue background, White Cross with blue background and border, White Rose, Yellow Cross on a red background with a border, and the Bread and Wine design. In addition, designs were selected to remember the late Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 and the Mother's Union. The cost of each kit was £20 – a considerable amount back then, for the wool thread, printed canvas, foam backing and a label, totalling £2,919.92 with postage added. The cost of the basic kneeler kit is now £68.20 which would total for a similar number £9,820.80 without postage. The commemorative kneeler kits are now £165.00 and above.



Any donation was welcome and you could work the kneeler or someone else could. There was an introductory meeting in the Church Hall on 21st November 1995 at 8.00 p.m.

By February 1996, 56 of the kneeler kits had been given out. Pen was always on hand to give advice and show anyone how to do it by having “tea and chat” sessions at her home. The kneelers were worked with quite thick wool on a printed canvas using cross stitch. It was not just for the women, many men of the Parish worked the kneelers as well.

The first 50 beautifully completed kneelers were dedicated on Easter Sunday 1996 and put in the front pews. Everyone was encouraged to take the time and look at the kneelers – each and

every one is so special – they are not just made with wool thread, canvas, foam, but also with time, skill, love, care and a very special dedication to a family member or friend.

The next dedication of kneelers was on 29th September 1996. At this time a further 92 kneelers were being worked on. It was hoped that all would be completed by Easter 1997 in readiness for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

It just shows the dedication and commitment of the congregation in working the kneelers to evoke memories of the person the kneeler is dedicated to. They provide a great deal of comfort.

The kneelers make a colourful display in the pews and are often a talking point amongst members of the congregation or visitors to the Church. When groups of young children from local Schools visit or children from the Church, the kneelers have proved useful teaching aids for Bible Stories or the History of the Church. The children are always fascinated.

Jane Brading introduced me to the book “A Single Thread” by Tracy Chevalier, it is a story in the 1930’s with the effects of World War One still deeply felt. After a loss of finance Violet (the main character) moves to Winchester and joins the Embroiderers Group of Women who embroider kneelers and seat cushions, and finds support and community in their work. One of the women involved was Louisa Pesel, (who was a real-life person) who lived at this time and was a designer and competent embroider. She was an important part of the Winchester Cathedral group. The kneelers and seat cushions are still very much on display in Winchester Cathedral and are highly treasured. I can recommend it as a good read, twisting fact and fiction to make the story.

When it was first mooted to remove the side pews, thought should have been given to purchasing chairs that could accommodate the

kneelers! If ever the main pews are removed and replaced (but at what cost in these difficult times!) thought must be given to purchasing chairs that have space for kneelers.

One of my first memories at St. Oswald's Church was of the wooden chairs in Church 4/8d (24p) for the standard chairs and 5/6d (27p) for the foldable chairs. The one main problem was moving the chairs for services, for shows etc and that there were never enough volunteers to move them, and this must be taken into account again and how heavy the chairs are to carry and move.



Just because some of the now members of the congregation do not remember the people who the kneelers are dedicated to, does not mean they should be disposed of. "Ars longa, vita brevis" - Art is long, life is short.

Perhaps some of these topics (and in the future) should be opened up to the congregation to get their points of view and feelings. If people realised donations of money for items in Church are likely to be disposed of a few years down the line they may be reluctant to donate!

Janet

P.S. I am in the process of compiling a booklet with information on all the people who donated, worked and dedicated a kneeler. It will take time and I will be in contact with many of you and will be grateful for your contributions. This can then form part of St. Oswald's history and people and their contributions will not be forgotten.

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Home arrangements by appointment.

Golden Charter Pre-payment Plans.

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(24 hour service)

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Rickmansworth

HERTS WD3 2BE

(01923) 772013(01923) 775013

172 New Road

Croxley Green

Rickmansworth

HERTS WD3 3HD

51 Lower Rd.

Chorleywood

HERTS WD3 5LG

01923 286102

Intercessions for each week

The following suggestions for prayer week by week are by no means exhaustive. They are intended as prompts to encourage our prayers for: the life of our church; the charities with which we are connected; the roads of our parish; the village and the wider community. Other suggestions for prayer may be found on the fortnightly pew sheet.

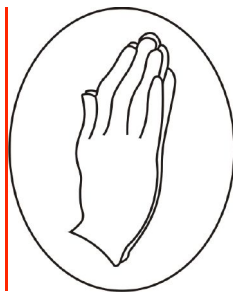
Sunday 28 September to Saturday 4 October

Our Mission Action Plan

The Marylebone Project (Church Army Women's Hostel)

Byewaters, Evensyde, Basildon Close, Gill Close, Heckford Close, Longmans Cl

Parliament and our MP Gagan Mohindra



Sunday 5 to Saturday 11 October

Choir and church musicians

Christian Solidarity Worldwide

Girton Way, Malvern Way, Sherborne Way, Winchester Way

Shaftesbury Court

Sunday 12 to Saturday 18 October

Readers and Churchwardens

New Hope Trust

Claremont Crescent, Lancing Way, Winton Crescent, Winton Drive

Churches Together in Croxley Green

Sunday 19 to Saturday 25 October

Mothers' Union and Men's Breakfast

Trinity Project

Dulwich Way, Lincoln Drive, Lincoln Way, Little Green Lane

Our local doctors' surgery

Sunday 26 October to Saturday 1 November

Safeguarding Team and Pastoral Contact Group

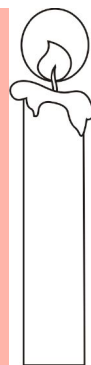
Croxley Parish Nurse

Baldwins Lane, Kenilworth Drive, Manor Way, Rochester Way

The King and Royal Family

Sunday 2 to Saturday 8 November

Uniformed organisations – Rainbows, Brownies and Guides
Christian Aid
Durrants Drive, Hastings Way, Lewes Way, Norwich Way
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, those involved in choosing a new
Archbishop of Canterbury, the Church of England and the Anglican
Communion



Sunday 9 to Saturday 15 November

Parish Magazine
Watford Schools Trust
Merchant Taylors Place, Appleby Drive, Gloucester Court, Hertford
Close, Pevensey Way, St Mawes Close, Scarborough Drive, Scotney
Close
Parish, District and County Councillors

Sunday 16 to Saturday 22 November

Churchwardens, Treasurer and PCC
The Children's Society
Dover Way, Ludlow Way, Richmond Way, Warwick Way
Our Diocesan Bishops, Alan, Richard and Jane

Sunday 23 to Saturday 29 November

Baptism preparation and follow-up
USPG
Canterbury Way, Gade Bank, Links Way, Rousebarn Lane
Our local shops and businesses

Sunday 30 November to Saturday 6 December

Café O
Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Partnership
Dorrofield Close, Hazelwood Road, Mayfare, Sansom Close, Watford Road
Our local schools

Please remember in your prayers the sick, those who care for them,
and those who mourn; our 10% mission giving recipients: USPG,
CMS, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Church Army Marylebone
Project, Alternatives Trust East London, Watford Schools Trust, A
Rocha, Croxley Parish Nurses and the Trinity Project.

ST OSWALD'S REMEMBRANCE BOOK

OCTOBER

George S. PENMAN ~ 24th Oct 1923 to 2nd Oct 2002

Jean Mary SCOTT - 23 September 1931 to 3rd October 2016

Alfred MORRIS ~ 9th Jan 1896 to 4th Oct 1987

Stephen John BONE ~ 22nd April 1934 to 7th Oct 2002

George Ernest McSACK ~ 19th March 1915 to 9th Oct 1970

David William RESTARICK ~ 22nd Dec 1926 to 11th Oct 2007

Sydney George HOOK ~ 14th Feb 1906 to 15th Oct 1990

Theresa (Tess) Dawn HAWKINS - 10th Nov 1947 to 15th Oct 2014

Jean Grace HOMER - 26 May 1932 to 18th Oct 2015

Clifford Ernest Patrick BLACKWELL - 2nd Mar 1930 to 21st Oct 2015

Diana Mary DAVIES ~ 17th Jan 1919 to 23rd Oct 2006

Geoffrey George Victor TILLEY ~ 8th Nov 1932 to 23rd Oct 2011

John Douglas BATCHELOR - 14th Oct 1927 to 24th Oct 2018

Arthur Alfred William LEE ~ 18th June 1909 to 28th Oct 1986

Lizzie KING ~ 5th Sep 1886 to 29th Oct 1969

Mary OLIVER ~ 1st Sep 1911 to 29th Oct 1994

Joyce MANDEVILLE ~ 10th Aug 1921 to 31st Oct 2009

Reg HENDERSON - 17th Feb 1917 to 31st October 2005

NOVEMBER

Richard John PALMER - 25th June 1936 to 1st Nov 2014

David WARD - 28th Dec 1935 to 4th Nov 2023

Brian David HOWARD ~ 3rd Nov 1958 to 5th Nov 2010

Eric George HART ~ 6th June 1910 to 7th Nov 1976
Margaret Violet MACLEAN ~ 13th Jan 1911 to 9th Nov 2010
Stephen John SHEPPARD ~ 24th Mar 1953 to 9th Nov 2015
Gillian Elizabeth POWELL LOUGHRAN ~ 13th Feb 1951 to 12th Nov 1993
John Arthur HOWARD ~ 24th Oct 1924 to 19th Nov 1974
Valerie Jean GRIFFITHS - 19 June 1934 to 20th November 2023
Audrey Jean RUMMERY ~ 10 Dec 1931 to 23 Nov 2015
Nellie Elizabeth MANNING ~ 13th Dec 1906 to 24th Nov 2004
Jessie Gertrude BARBERO ~ 29th April 1913 to 25th Nov 2004
Sydney George SEARLE ~ 20th May 1922 to 25th Nov 2010

FAIRTRADE CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS

If you have kindly been a supporter of my annual Fairtrade event in the past, I will be ordering cards and gifts to support Transport Trade this year. Transport Trade was originally Traidcraft Exchange and is a charitable organisation that now works closely with True Origin. Please visit both websites -www.Store-transform-trade.org and www.trueorigin.org.uk and if you would like to save on postage send me your order by the 17th October.

I will also be at home on Wednesday, 15th October 10.00-6.00 and Thursday, 16th October 10.00-6.00 and can show you the cards and gifts on my computer if you don't have the facility to access the websites yourself.

Eleri Davies

eleridavies99@hotmail.com

99 Baldwins Lane

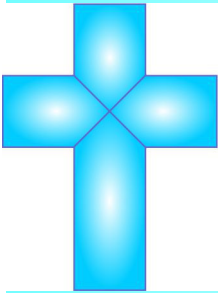


A prayer from the World Council of Churches for the World Week of Peace in Palestine and Israel

God of love and justice,

We ask you to open our hearts for empathy for the suffering on all sides. For those in Gaza who are in darkness in the face of death and destruction. Hear their cries.

For those in the West Bank who are victims of settler violence and theft of land. Strengthen them in their struggle for justice.



For those who are held in Gaza as hostages. For their desperate families who fear the worst. For those who mourn the death of their loved ones. Send light into their darkness. Open the door for a release of all hostages, and all those unjustly detained.

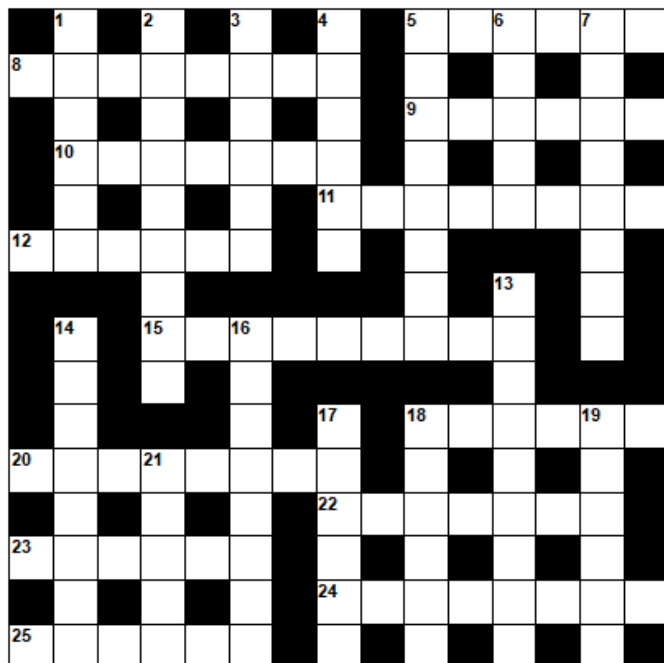
We bring before you hate and division around the world as a reaction to the war in the Holy Land:

- Hateful acts against Arabs and Muslims being labelled as terrorists while seeking a just peace.
- Attacks on Jews who are falsely held responsible for the actions of the government of Israel.

Send your spirit of love and reconciliation into our hearts, so we have the courage to uphold the sanctity of life, see the beauty of all human beings created in your image and overcome all hate.

God of reconciliation,

Send your spirit of wisdom and prudence into the hearts of those in power that a just and sustainable peace with room for a good life for both Palestinians and Israelis may become possible.



Cryptic Crossword by Richard Lee

23 Writing desk for an
information office (6)
24 Is here to rewrite
speculative ideas (8)
25 Desperately want
the French sewer (6)

Down

1 Water wall with a
swan to make moist (6)
2 Tentative
arrangement to be
alert and observant (9)
3 Fifty one pounds,
colloquially, in flowing

cross

5 Humiliate average following of
French (6)

8 Distant object is an obsolete coin (8) of opinions (8)

9 Strange traits for one with creative
abilities (6)

10 Supreme change to take for
granted (7)

11 Comic one becomes financially
viable (8)

12 Joined together in duet
arrangement (6)

15 True novel about one who offers to
undertake a job (9)

18 Short month with a poem to break
a cypher (6)

20 Carry out a state making a
voluntary gift (8)

22 Cowherd stirred a thick fish soup
(7)

form (6)

4 Geared in a way that concurred (6)

5 Agile duo can produce an exchange
of opinions (8)

6 Leading men of the trade office
having a short maxim (5)

7 Beat of burden was unwell and
attacked violently (8)

13 Reproduce in a manner having pre-
defined actions (9)

14 Lose true variation having
determination (8)

16 Tie adult into scope for freedom of
action (8)

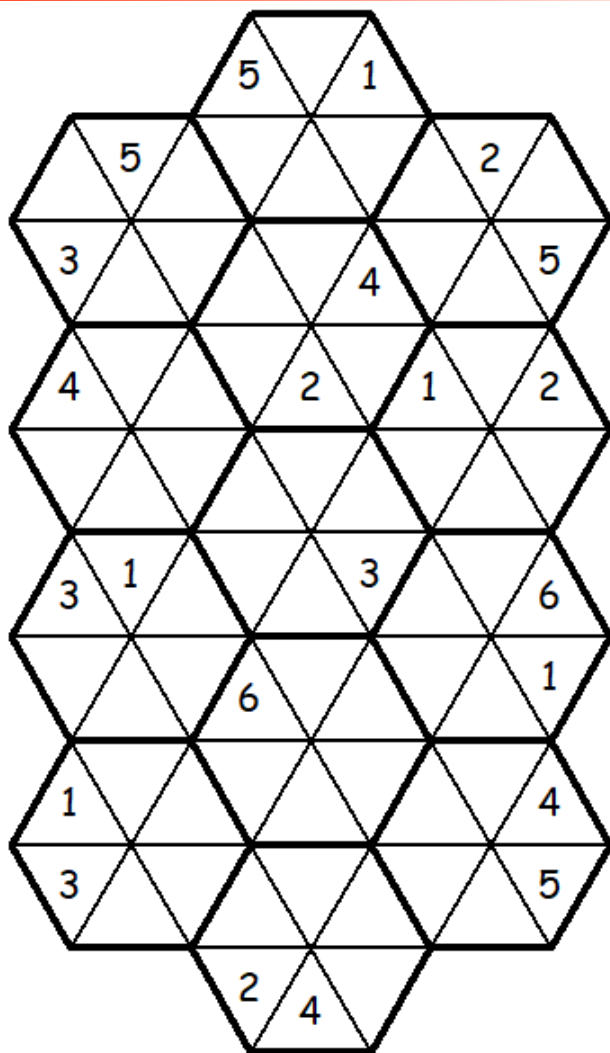
17 Make it nice to provoke (6)

18 Snored wildly displaying remotely
controlled flying machines (6)

19 Traded poorly and ran quickly (6)

21 Males in the current era make a
change (5)

Number Hexagon Puzzle by Richard Lee



Each hexagon has the numbers 1 to 6 randomly inside it. Where two hexagons touch the touching segments must have the same number. The puzzle is to fill all of the segments with the correct number!

Autumn ? Quiz

- 1 Hedgehogs start to hibernate in autumn, but what is a baby hedgehog called?
- 2 What is the Yorkshire name for trick or treating?
- 3 Is pumpkin considered a vegetable or fruit?
- 4 Who are Dr. Peter Venkman, Dr. Raymond Stantz, and Dr. Egon Spengler better known as?
- 5 Which famous German festival is celebrated each autumn?
- 6 Which 1967 Kinks song starts with the lines; From the dew-soaked hedge creeps a crawly caterpillar, when the dawn begins to crack?
- 7 In which month does autumn begin in the Southern Hemisphere?
- 8 What was the name of the protagonist in the movie Halloween?
- 9 What is the name of the full moon associated with Autumn?
- 10 Who wrote the famous poem 'To Autumn'?
- 11 Where do UK swallows fly to for winter?
- 12 Squirrels are starting to bury acorns. What is the bird that does the same?
- 13 At what time do the clocks go back in late October?
- 14 What is the name for the end of astronomical autumn?
- 15 Which American singer, born on 5 November 1941 is most famous for singing with Paul Simon?

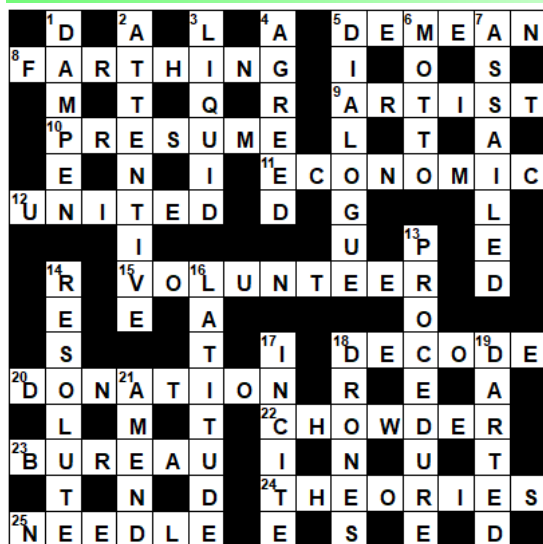
Tatami Puzzle by Richard Lee

		3				1	
2					3		
				3			
			3				4
			2				
	3				3		
2				1			
			1			1	3

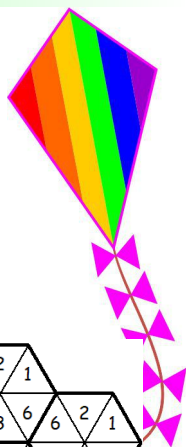
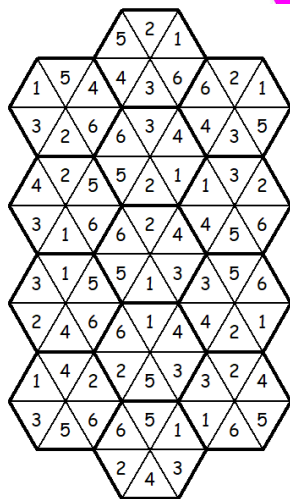
Tatami Puzzle

Each 8x8 grid is filled with sixteen 4x1 blocks fitted together to form a square. The four cells of each block contain, randomly, one each of the numbers 1 to 4. No two similar numbers can touch horizontally or vertically and each row and column must have just two of each of the numbers. Some numbers are given to get you started and all you have to do is fill in the rest.

PUZZLE ANSWERS



1	2	3	4	2	4	1	3
2	3	4	1	4	3	2	1
3	4	1	2	3	1	4	2
4	1	2	3	1	2	3	4
3	4	3	2	4	1	2	1
1	3	1	4	2	3	4	2
2	1	2	3	1	4	3	4
4	2	4	1	3	2	1	3



Autumn ? Quiz

1. A hoglet.
2. Mischief Night.
3. A fruit.
4. The Ghostbusters.
5. Oktoberfest.
6. Autumn Almanac.
7. March.
8. Michael Myers.
9. Harvest Moon.
10. John Keats.
11. South Africa.
12. The jay.
13. 2am.
14. The winter solstice.
15. Art Garfunkel.



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**St Oswald's Church, 17 Malvern Way, Croxley Green,
Rickmansworth, Herts. WD3 3QL**

Contacts

Church Phone Number: 07359529452

Lay-Reader: Tony Barton

tony.barton@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

Lay-Reader: Magdalena Pletsch

magdalena.pletsch@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

Lay Leader of Worship: Colin Nunn

colinnunn47@msn.com

Church Wardens: Helen McAlpine

warden1@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

Anne-Georgina Barnes

warden2@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

Treasurer: Karen Pryse

treasurer@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

PCC Secretary: Brian Thomson

secretary@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

Safeguarding: safeguarding@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

Hall Bookings: hall-bookings@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

General Enquiries: info@stoswaldschurch.org.uk

EDITOR'S NOTE

Updated information on services and activities at St Oswald's will be posted on the church website www.stoswaldschurch.org.uk, the church's Facebook page and the fortnightly weekly email.

The next edition of the magazine will be published at the end of November 2025. Please send items for the next edition by Sunday 16 November 2025 to magazine@stoswaldschurch.org.uk