ALL SAINTS' HIGHFIELD PARISHIONERS' NEWSLETTER JULY 2024



A rose commemorating the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen 2012; memorial roses, a peony and grey cerastium- Brigid

www.allsaintsheadington.org.uk

Who's Who at All Saints

Minister	Director of Music and Organist	
(From end July) Rev. Paul Niemiec	Stuart Donaldson	
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Rev. Peter Boulton-Lea	Keith Waters	
Churchwardens	Choir Administrator	
James Larminie	Vivienne Larminie	
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Christine Tucker	Catherine Donaldson	
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Michael Oberuohwo	Social Committee Chair	
	Social Committee Cham	
Safeguarding Officer	Susan Newey	
Safeguarding Officer	Susan Newey	
Safeguarding Officer Emma Steane	Susan Newey Children's Team	
Safeguarding Officer Emma Steane <u>safeguarding@allsaintsheadington.org.uk</u>	Susan Newey Children's Team Catherine Donaldson	
Safeguarding Officer Emma Steane safeguarding@allsaintsheadington.org.uk Hon. Treasurer	Susan Newey Children's Team Catherine Donaldson Andrew Steane	
Safeguarding Officer Emma Steane safeguarding@allsaintsheadington.org.uk Hon. Treasurer John Glasson	Susan Newey Children's Team Catherine Donaldson Andrew Steane Emma Steane	
Safeguarding Officer Emma Steane safeguarding@allsaintsheadington.org.uk Hon. Treasurer John Glasson Hon. Secretary PCC	Susan Newey Children's Team Catherine Donaldson Andrew Steane Emma Steane Welcome Team	
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Safeguarding OfficerEmma Steanesafeguarding@allsaintsheadington.org.ukHon. TreasurerJohn GlassonHon. Secretary PCCVivienne Larminiepcc.secretary@allsaintsheadington.org.uk	Susan Newey Children's Team Catherine Donaldson Andrew Steane Emma Steane Welcome Team Valerie Boulter Veronica John	
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A Message from Peter Boulton-Lea

On the 25th July, we welcome our new interim minister Paul and his wife Helen. Another new chapter in the life of the Parish begins, new opportunities to further our mission in the community. I know from experience that it can be rather daunting starting in a new parish, so do make Paul and Helen feel welcome in their early days. Do tell them your name whenever you meet them in their first few weeks. When you meet people en masse it can take time for names to stick! I'm sure they'll soon feel at home amongst us and together we'll continue to build God's Kingdom in Highfield.

The 25th happens to be ST. JAMES' DAY, one of the first disciples Jesus called, along with his brother John. He is one of the three that Jesus took with Him up the mountain and witnessed our Lord's Transfiguration. He was also one of the three that Jesus took apart to be with Him in the Garden of Gethsemane. Instead of being a support to Him they fell asleep! Jesus gave James and his brother John the nickname Boanerges, sons of thunder – so presumably they had a temper! However, he was a faithful disciple and was the first apostle to be martyred when Herod put him to the sword (Acts 12:2). Legend has him preaching in Spain and the cathedral in Santiago de Compostela is where he is supposed to be buried.

Another saint who's celebrated this month is MARY MAGDALENE (22nd) out of whom Jesus cast seven demons (Luke 8:2) and who became a devoted follower. According to John's Gospel she was the first to meet the risen Christ after His Resurrection and who was commanded to tell the disciples, "I am ascending to My Father and your Father, to My God and your God" (John 20:17). She went and told them "I have seen the Lord" (v.18) and became known as "the apostle to the apostles." Although a patriarchal and misogynistic Church later depicted her as a "fallen woman" there's no evidence that she was the woman who washed Jesus' feet, wiped them with her hair and anointed them with costly oil (Luke 7:36-50). Indeed, being known as Mary of Magdala she was possibly a business woman in that town and it was out of her wealth that she was able to minister to Jesus and His disciples after he healed her (Luke 8:3).

So we thank God for her witness and her deep devotion. And may we follow her example of witness to our risen Lord and Saviour. We may not be able to claim to have seen Him but may we live so that in our lives others may see something of Him – his love, His peace, His joy. Remember Jesus' words to Thomas – "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" (John 20:29). We are the successors of those like James and Mary Magdalene who faithfully followed and witnessed to our living Lord.

According to my calculations this will be my 35th "message" and probably my last as no doubt Paul will wish to write the "Vicar's letter" in future. I hope these articles have been helpful and enlightening – reminding us of "the great cloud of witnesses" whom we remember and celebrate through the year, inspiring and encouraging us on our own journey of faith.

Wishing you joy as we continue that journey under new guidance,

Your friend, *Peter*.

Worship in July

Without a doubt the highlight of our July worship will be on Thursday 25 July at 7:30pm. The bishop of Oxford the Rt Revd Steven Croft will preach and license the Revd Captain Paul Niemiec as our priest-in-charge for the next three years. This will be an important and joyous occasion. Paul introduces himself to us a few pages on in this newsletter.

Please do invite friends and family and anyone you think might be interested to the licensing service. The social committee will be providing refreshments at the end of the service.

Following this, on the last Sunday of the month, he will lead our worship and preach for the first time.

Gordon Jeans and Ginny Thomas will be preaching and leading our worship, probably for the last time for a while. We are SO grateful for their support these last several months. You may have heard that the Rev. Darren McFarland is leaving St Andrew's, and so Gordon and Ginny will be busy there. By coincidence, Darren's last Sunday is Paul's first, so there will be one week without a vacancy in Headington. We are also very grateful to Peter too of course, but he will still be with us and taking services from time-to-time I'm sure.

As the choir will have put in a special effort for the licensing, there will not be choral evensong on the 28 July, the last Sunday of the month.

Time	Service	Date	Sunday	Celebrant/Preacher
10:00 am	Holy Communion	7 July	Trinity 6	Gordon Jeanes
10:00 am	Holy Communion	14 July	Trinity 7	Ginny Thomas
10:00 am	Holy Communion	21 July	Trinity 8	Peter Boulton-Lea/James Larminie
7:30 pm	Licensing	25 July		Bishop Steven
10:00 am	Holy Communion	28 July	Trinity 9	Paul Niemiec

During the week there are normally services for prayer at 8:30 a.m. as follows:

Tuesdays, Book of Common Prayer Morning Prayer

Wednesdays, more informal prayer.

James

Hello everyone, I'm Paul. [Rev. Captain Paul Niemiec C.A, BTh]



Helen and I are honoured to be joining you at All Saints and want to start by thanking you all, so very much, for your prayers both for the process, my appointment and for all that is underway for our arrival; also thank you, for the wonderful welcome we received on first meeting some of you.

Niemiec, by the way, is Polish for German. I am neither, being born in London of two British parents. It is pronounced 'knee – Mick'. Paul means small and saintlike- but I'll leave you to judge.

For over 45 years I've served Christians in numerous capacities from Sunday school teacher in a tiny council estate church to being rural dean of the Sandringham area.

40 years ago, I was commissioned as a Church Army evangelist and Helen and I were married. 19 Years later I was ordained. We have two children and three grandchildren.

I've driven over 300,000 miles in the service of the church; spoken and preached in cathedrals, village churches and at numerous events, colleges, universities, schools and festivals from Cornwall to the Lakes and Durham to Folkstone, and a preaching tour in western Kenya. Helen and I even started a church, from scratch, in our lounge and when we left five years later, 100 regular worshippers had a new venue together with five years of wonderful memories.

My earlier ministry was all in youth work including organising four all night youth festivals in Salisbury Cathedral, speaking at many gatherings, conferences and assisting all over the country with training,

Most recently I've been serving in 10 churches, taking two services each week and, together with Helen, pastoring many from a large church that has, very sadly, gone into meltdown.

Now it's time for TLC -Thanks, Listening and Collaborating

The vicarage will be our twelfth home together and we're really looking forward to three amazing years together with you and God, as He reveals His further blessings to and upon us all.

Things are happening very fast and there is a great deal to do but as we share, with those we've already met, the conviction that this IS God's will; will you, please join us, please in continuing to pray, THY WILL BE DONE.

See you on 25 July, if not before,

Paul, and Helen



Margaret Gunstone Eulogy

Last month we included appreciations of Margaret Gunstone by her close friends. Her well attended funeral took place at All Saints' on 4th June with the service conducted by Peter Boulton-Lea. The eulogy, which is published below, was delivered, on behalf of Margaret's family, by her cousin Catherine.

Good morning, everyone.

For those of you who don't know me, I'm Catherine, one of several of Margaret's cousins here today. More accurately we're cousins-once-removed (or twice/three times removed) as Margaret was cousin to our various mums and within the family, most of us knew her as Aunt Margaret or Auntie Margaret.

Looking around today, I'm sure we can almost hear her saying, "Oh I say!" at all of us gathered together to celebrate her long life.

She was after all 'quite remarkable'.

The 9th May marked the end of an era. Not only did we say goodbye to Auntie Margaret but we lost the sole remaining member of that generation and our physical touchstone with the past. Just a few years ago she declared' "I'm the last one!"

When writing a note or concluding a conversation, whether in person or on the telephone, she would often say "Well there's no more news" but "actually" Auntie Margaret there is more news to share.

News of how, in her ninetieth year, she continued despite some increasing frailties with an almost fierce determination to stay at home for as long as possible. "I've just had a bit of a blip", would be how she described her various medical conditions. But supported by part-time carers, her loyal neighbour and friend Rose, regular phone calls and visits from family and friends she achieved this until those final three weeks of a mercifully short illness when she was looked after in the Albany Nursing Home. There she was physically in safe hands round the clock and acknowledged her illness and coming end with great courage.

News of how, as a very faithful lady she knew she was in safe hands spiritually too. It may have been the end of her earthly life but she knew she was in God's hands and ready to share in God's glory. She was at peace with herself...and it was Ascension Day when she passed away. She had been so pleased to feel well enough to come here to church for Easter Day and knew that she was surrounded with love from this church community. As Teresa of Avila said: "Trust in God, let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you.

All things pass, God never changes.

Patience achieves all it strives for.

He who has God finds he lacks nothing. God alone suffices."

A long-standing resident of Headington, she had grown up in Stanton-St-John living in a tied cottage that went with her father's work as a gardener until he died. She and her mother, our Great Auntie Vera, then lived-in as housekeeper in Headington Quarry before finally moving to Grays Road. She was a trained, skilled needlewoman and told us stories of making smocks for the lady gardeners at Waterperry Gardens. Then for many years she worked at Boots in Oxford until she retired. She loved the countryside and whenever any of us took her out to the village she would reminisce about her childhood there, the little village school, her beloved church and the bluebell woods. "I love bluebells" she said to me only last month.

She would regale us with tales of the family, especially the funny stories and would often say "Well, we'd better cut the tale in two", before launching into yet another anecdote that she'd just remembered. And she would always make time to ask, and was interested to hear about us all, and especially what "the young folk" of the family were doing these days.

"I'll just go along quietly" she'd say but then recount all of the busy things she was still involved with until relatively recently. Trefoil Guild, Mother's Union, Church Sales and coffee mornings.....so the list went on!

She enjoyed trips to gardens and garden centres, especially enjoying the tea or coffee and CAKE in the cafes and she loved her own garden, liking it to be kept neat and tidy. She would tell us of the little friends she had made like the robins and blackbirds, talking to them while she sat or worked outside. "If you would be happy all your life plant a garden" goes one saying, and another, "One is nearer to God in a garden, than anywhere else on earth" would well describe this important part of her life.

The story of "The Secret Garden" by Frances Hodgson Burnett has been much in my mind when thinking about wanting to pay tribute to Auntie Margaret and these sentiments seemed pertinent:

"Sometimes, when one gets up at the tender solemn dawn-time one's heart stands still at the strange unchanging majesty of the rising sun; And sometimes, in a wood at sunset, with the mysterious deep gold stillness slanting through the branches; And sometimes, the immense quiet of the dark blue at night with the millions of stars waiting and watching makes one sure that if you look the right way you can see that the whole world is a garden".

I think she knew how to look the right way and acknowledged her Creator's goodness in all things.

The morning after Auntie Margaret died, the sky was a clear brilliant blue where I now live in Cornwall, and there were vapour trail crosses in the sky. It was as if she were signing off one of her little letters with "All for now, there's no more news. Give my love to everyone. God Bless you all".

And so, Auntie Margaret, daughter, granddaughter, niece, cousin, cousin-onceremoved, godmother, colleague, girl-guider, seamstress, auntie, neighbour, FRIEND.

"There we are". You've had a good long life. And, until we meet again, thank you for being a part of our lives and for leaving us with lasting memories in our hearts.

A message from the churchwardens:

Catherine has asked us to include a message of thanks from the family for everyone's good wishes and support, and for the generous reception after Margaret's funeral. She writes: 'It was so lovely to be amongst Auntie Margaret's friends and your church community and to have time to share reminiscences together'.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748) Pastor, educator, theologian and hymn-writer

This month sees the 350th anniversary of the birth of one of the most prominent hymnwriters in *Common Praise*. Strikingly, at least half of the 28 examples of his work are rarely sung, and you may well never have heard of them. But among the rest are some classics, well-known beyond the walls of churches. Imagine Christmas without 'Joy to the World' (the tune by Handel, a younger contemporary) or Easter without 'When I survey'. Or how about a solemn national occasion without 'O God, our help in ages past'?

Isaac Watts was born in Southampton on 17 July 1674, the first child of Isaac Watts, a clothier, and his wife Sarah Tanton. Isaac senior was a leader of the nonconformist congregation which in 1688 became the Above Bar Congregational Church (in existence now as an independent evangelical church), while Sarah's roots were in the Southampton French-speaking church, established in the sixteenth century by refugees and served in the early twentieth century by Eve Vause's lay minister father (discussed in the Newsletter back in 2020). The accession to the throne in late 1688 of William III and Mary II saw a greater measure of toleration for non-Anglican Protestants, but their access to education and public office was still restricted. A friendly local vicar - the rector of All Saints, Southampton - taught Isaac junior Latin, Greek, French and Hebrew at grammar school, and a local doctor offered to pay for him to go to university. But Isaac chose not to take the oaths conforming to the Church of England that would have allowed him to do this, and instead he went to a dissenting academy, where for eight years he read widely in theology, philosophy and other subjects. These studies could not earn him a degree, but in recognition of his achievements, he was eventually awarded a DD (doctorate in divinity) in 1728 by the Universities of Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

In March 1702 Watts was ordained and became minister of Mark Lane Independent Church in London. This once-flourishing congregation had languished under his predecessor, but despite chronic ill-health, he presided over a resurgence. After it moved to a purpose-built meeting house in Duke's Place, Bury Street, the church became a leading centre of evangelical dissent. Helped by a succession of assistants and generous friends with whom he lodged, Watts was supported through his illnesses and given much time to develop his literary work. Watts had written poetry since childhood and regarded it 'as a divine gift which should be dedicated to God' [Isabel Rivers, 'Isaac Watts', Oxford Dictionary of National Biography]. The story goes that he was prompted to compose hymns because of dissatisfaction with those sung at the Southampton meeting of his youth; he claimed to have written about 200 that were ready for public use. From 1706 he published several collections, including Divine Songs Attempted in Easy Language, for the Use of Children (1715) and The Psalms of David Imitated in the Language of the New Testament (1719). The latter were neither translations nor



metrical psalms, but rather renderings of the meaning of the original in ways that would be appropriate to the congregational worship of his day. Just as 'O God, our help' is based on Psalm 90, so 'Jesus shall reign where'er the sun' imitates Psalm 72. 'Sweet is the work, my God, my King', which still resonates as something my parents and I used to sing to the simple tune 'Deep Harmony' round the piano in my youth (no tenor in the family, sadly), stems from Psalm 92. Meanwhile, in parallel manner, another of his hymns, 'Come, let us join our cheerful songs' derives from Revelation 5: 11-13.

Another of Watt's gifts was an ability to engage with multiple audiences, from children to academics, and on secular as well as sacred subjects. His output extended to schoolbooks and catechisms, the product of careful thought about the education of youth, but also to engagement in the philosophical controversies of the time, critiquing John Locke (although he agreed with Locke's principle of freedom of religious worship). He tried both to defend the political standing of dissenters and to keep them from splintering into different wings. He explored some of Christianity's most difficult doctrines and attempted to steer a moderate, middle course, although, as he realised, this opened him up to misunderstanding and suspicion from some. On the other hand, he was widely loved. His wide range of friends and correspondents included both nonconformists and Anglicans, and stretched to New England, Germany and Bohemia. Watts died on 25 November 1748. The preacher at his funeral claimed that no one could match him for the scale of publications that were disseminated at home and abroad, used regularly and translated into many languages. The popularity of his *Psalms and Hymns* persisted through the eighteenth into the nineteenth century. While not all have weathered well into the twenty-first century, the enduring appeal of a core of favourites ensures his legacy lives on.

Vivienne

'Sweet is the work, my God, my King,To praise thy name, give thanks and sing,To show thy love by morning light,And talk of all thy truth at night......O may my heart in tune be found,Like David's harp of solemn sound!'

Psalm 92: 1-3 (Authorised Version)

¹ It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High:

² To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,

³Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.

Events in July

The Britannia lunch! As the refurbishment is not now happening until September we will meet as usual on the first Wednesday, which will be 3 July at 12.15pm

There is also a Church House Management Committee meeting on 3 July at 1.30pm in Church House.

Susan

Lye Valley Talk and Walk SPONGE HEADINGTON

With Judy Webb and friends of Lye Valley - June 15th 2024



Christine reports on an inspiring talk from Judy and a beautiful walk down the Lye Valley.

See Friends of Lye Valley | Oxford | Facebook for pictures of the event.

We learnt:

There are two types of water issue affecting this unique SSSI, and an answer to both seems to be to get water into the ground, instead of rushing about on top – make our area SPONGE HEADINGTON. 1. Run-off rainwater rushes down to the Lye Brook from a large area of Headington, carrying street pollution and wrecking the delicate environment, going on to flood homes downstream – Florence Park, Cowley Marsh. Increasingly heavy rainfall is forecast into the future, due to climate change. 2. Water falling on smaller number of streets also goes into the drainage system instead of percolating through the ground and feeding the natural springs that ensure the life of this fen habitat. There are actions that can be taken to help both water situations, and we agreed that we would do these:

- 1. Advertise the site through our churches so that people get to know and love it.
- Advertise for supporters doing hands-on work to manage the fen –
 (Wednesdays 9 11) making and repairing dams, cutting back vegetation;
 growing seeds at home, supporting campaigns.
- 3. Advertise these ways for helping slow the rush of flood water and managing water better: garden water butts; rain gardens (taking water from roofs straight into planters); growing plants like Sedges and varieties of Bugle; using permeable paving; having soakaways for rain water. (Evidence of effective soakaways can reduce your water bill.)
- 4. Leaflet the specific streets who contribute to the Lye Valley springs, with those suggestions. Leaflets to be printed by the churches.

5. Hold a prayer meeting and walk at Lye Valley in early September, when the emblematic Grass of Parnassus or Bog Star should be in bloom. During the walk we saw the work of volunteers in cutting back vegetation, repairing dams and other protective measures, and of course the beautiful flowers out at present:







Common Spotted Orchid



Ragged Robin.

We also heard about a type of seed which can lay dormant in the ground for a hundred years before germinating if the conditions are right, as has happened at Lye Valley – the tiny Bog Pimpernel - a metaphor of hope when things are looking bleak for the environment. See picture on the FOLV Facebook page.

Next steps:

I suggest a steering group to manage the practical arrangements needed to organise this – particularly the leafleting – please contact me if you would like to be involved.

Anna Brooke - anna.brooke@live.co.uk

Many thanks to Judy and other friends of the Lye Valley for this inspiring event

See this website for more information: Friends of Lye Valley, Oxford

Churches Together in Headington

After a couple of years of inactivity due to Covid, Churches Together in Headington is renewing its energy with a refreshed vision and direction. There have already been a couple of events by the Eco group, of which another report is in this newsletter, and on Wednesday 26 June they held a Hustings for the Prospective Parliamentary candidates who are standing for election on Thursday 4th July.

Due to the number of candidates, they decided to try a new format of hustings - a speed hustings. This takes its inspiration from the 'speed dating' phenomenon, whereby the candidates move around groups of attendees to answer questions about the policies that they promote. The evening started with an introduction by Father Luke Norman, curate of St. Andrew's, Headington and current chairman of CTH, then Christine Tucker, LLM at All Saints' introduced the candidates. Of the 12 candidates for the election, 7 candidates or their representatives attended. Amir Steve Ali (Independent) was unable to send a representative so a statement from him was read out at the start of the event.

Each candidate had two minutes to give a brief precis of their stance, and then they circulated around the attendees who had been seated in 7 groups. Each group was supplied with a list of the questions supplied to CTH in advance of the meeting, in case discussion needed help in starting. Individually the candidates had 10 minutes with each group in turn, although this got a little muddled towards the end of the evening and a couple of candidates found themselves talking to the same group twice.



The following candidates or their representatives were at the meeting:

Sushilla Dhall, (Green Party)

Anneliese Dodds (Labour) was represented by Liz Brighouse as she was unable to attend due to a previous commitment at a charity fundraising event.

Brandon French (Workers Revolutionary Party)

Theo Jupp (Liberal Democrat)

Katherine Longthorp (Party of Women)

Zaid Marham (Workers Party) was represented by Jonny Cowee as he was unable to contribute due to illness

Jabu Nala-Hartley (Independent) was represented by Peter Dwyer as she was unable to attend due to illness.

At the end of the meeting, the candidates were invited to give a 2 minute summation of their feedback on the conversations that they had had with people and a brief resume of their political platform. There was a lot of very positive feedback on the format from both the candidates and those who asked questions, both parties felt invigorated by the chance to discuss matters in detail. It was interesting to see that some people who attended had not been old enough to vote in the previous GE in 2019 so had come along to see who the candidates were! Our hope is that the evening helped them decide who to vote for on July 4th!

Another event, not organised by CTH, but one they would like to bring to your attention has been organised by Renew Oxford on Saturday 6th July.

'Renew Oxford 2024' will take place on Saturday 6th July, 9.30-1pm, at The King's Centre in Osney Mead.

This year's event will be focused on discovering what churches now exist in the city. We want to celebrate the growing ethnic and cultural diversity of the church in Oxford, and to discover what everyone is doing and has vision to do. We'd love you to be there, as we pool our knowledge of the existing churches and Christian organisations, and plan for a better future together.

We will, of course, also hear some encouraging 'good news' stories – including an update from Safe Families – and we'll take time to pray together.

You can just turn up on the day, so there's no need to book, but why not put it in your diary now?!

Christine

Emendatum

Very many apologies to our friends at Holy Trinity Headington Quarry, for an error in the report, in last month's newsletter, on meeting on 21 May. Here, we heard about the A Rocha Eco Church award scheme and eco-measures that have been taken at Holy Trinity. In the report it was stated, on the basis of a misunderstanding in one of the discussion groups, that Holy Trinity now has under-pew heating. In fact, this form of heating is now being discussed but no decisions have been made as yet about installation. I am grateful to Hilary Rollin for putting me right.

Janet

From the Editors

As ever we convey our hearty thanks to all our contributors. This issue will be the last of the interregnum and we express our great thanks to Peter for his monthly pastoral letters. We have all been sustained in our faith by his spiritually uplifting messages. Peter's parents were very perceptive when they christened him, he has certainly been a rock for All Saints'.



Our thoughts turn to some happy news with the birth of Arja to Joanna and Andrew; those of us on the All Saints' Parish List were able to share their joy in the email and photo they circulated. We were concerned to hear that Arja had to return to hospital; we are very relieved to know they are back home again and Arja is progressing well. On behalf of All Saints' we send Arja, Joanna and Andrew our love and wish them God's blessing.'





This month we send birthday greetings to Lucy Whitworth on 2nd July and to Sandra Morris on the 31st. We hope they have a lovely day. The mention of Sandra reminds us that last month we omitted to include a splendid photo of husband Les and grandson George with Les' 80th birthday cake- so here it is, courtesy of Brigid.

As usual we request prayers for our friends who are not well enough to join us in our worship. Please remember Sheila Fitzgerald, Marian Loudon, Joan Turner, Audrey and Derek Woodcock. Christine visited Sheila recently in St Luke's and reports that 'she was quite chirpy and in good spirits'. Christine told her that we pray for her each Sunday. Sheila has had several visitors from All Saints' and her son and daughter visit

regularly. She enjoys the newsletter which her son Nigel prints off for her.

We also send our commiserations to Susan Newey who has sustained a cracked bone in her forearm as a result of a fall. It must be very painful but it has not deterred Susan from her usual church duties.

Shortly before we went to press, we heard the sad news of the passing of Cathleen Sweet. Cathleen was the much-loved sister of Eve Vause. We know everyone will be remembering Eve in their prayers and sending their love and deepest sympathy. Cathleen had many friends at All Saints'; her late husband Geoffrey was a Reader, now called Licensed Lay Minister, for several decades. Cathleen's funeral will be held on Wednesday 17th July at 2.00 pm at Headington Crematorium. It will be a Humanist service. Afterwards there will be refreshments in Church House.

Most of you will have seen James's email regarding the cancellation of the Summer concert in aid of the Children's Society. I am sure we all understand the pressure that the Churchwardens and other officers are under as the interregnum comes to an end and preparations are made to welcome Paul and Helen to our parish and for Paul's licensing service on 25th July.

There is much to look forward to at the end of July!

With all good wishes,

Catherine and Catherine

Headington Singers: Italian Serenade

Headington Singers & Orchestra

Conductor: Sally Mears Leader: Thomas Gregory-Smith

ITALIAN SERENADE

Clare Kirk: Soprano Joshua Saunders: Tenor Will Orr: Bass Chris Jackson: Tuba

Puccini: Messa di Gloria Gregson: Tuba Concerto Barker: Canti Napolitani

Friday, 12 July, 2024 at 7.30pm All Saints Church, Lime Walk, OX3 7AL Tickets on the door £12 / £10 / children free www.headmatonsingers.org.uk

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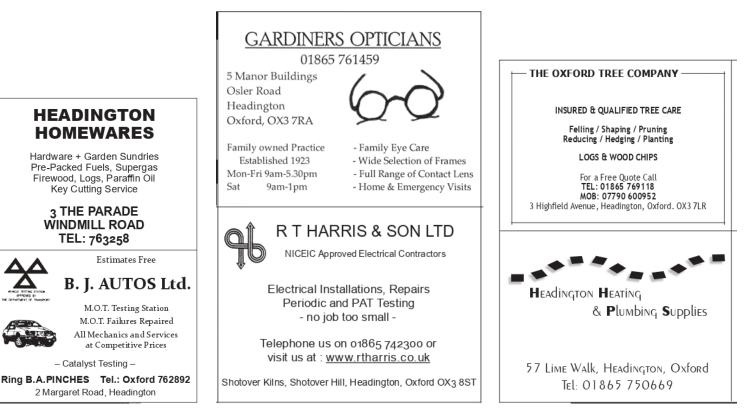
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