

Chalfont St Giles Parish Magazine



**September -
November 2025**

The Parish Church of Chalfont St Giles

<https://csgparish.church>

in the Benefice of Chalfont St Giles with Seer Green and Jordans

Rector Dan Beesley (01494) 211738 07590123603

Associate Minister (Holy Trinity Seer Green) Rev Jez Carr

Benefice Curate * Rev Paul Henderson (01494) 764 367

Children & Families Worker * Position vacant

Benefice Licensed Lay Minister * Linda West (01494) 673 821

Church Wardens Richard Silman 07786194695

Janelle Stevenson 07771423553

Deputy Church Warden Melainé Teahan (01494) 873 457

* part-time

Parish Administrator Janelle Stevenson

saintgileschurch@gmail.com Vestry office: (01494) 258110

See back cover for details of other Parish roles

How to Contact the Magazine Team

Put your copy in the post rack at the back of church (in the slot "Magazine Articles")

Email your copy to: stgileschurchmagazine@gmail.com

Deadline for the next issue: Friday 14th November

Please send diary dates to:

Church - Parish Office at: saintgileschurch@gmail.com

or (01494) 258110

Secular - stgileschurchmagazine@gmail.com

Chalfont St Giles Parish Magazine is edited, produced
and distributed entirely by volunteers.

Welcome

First an apology about the lateness of the magazine this month. A few technical problems meant that I was not able to get it done before going on holiday as I had hoped. However here it is.

This time we have the usual features and some one-off articles that I hope you will find interesting. There is Jenny's goodbye and also a tribute written by Mary Bentall. We also have a very practical reaction to one of her recent sermons which you might find of use.

Roger Foord has provided an interesting article about Notre Dame with some wonderful pictures and Tony Ferguson has given me an account of a visit to the church in 1899 which was given to him as a result of his new Church tours initiative. There are reviews of concerts and advertisements for some of the activities in the next few months. Some of these invite you to get involved in helping others in a variety of ways so make sure you read them all.

The Editor



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Magazine articles and photos are always welcome and can be emailed to: stgileschurchmagazine@gmail.com or placed in the pigeon hole in church, or the post box by the Plumb gate

The next magazine deadline is: Friday 14th November



Seasons of Gratitude and Reflection

The summer months pass quickly, don't they? One moment we are basking in long evenings and warm days, and before we know it the air turns cooler, the nights draw in, and autumn is upon us. September through November always feel like months of change. The landscape shifts, routines settle, and the

church's calendar guides us through moments that are rich in meaning and full of opportunities to pause and reflect.

At the start of autumn, our thoughts often turn to harvest. Even though very few of us now live from the land in the way past generations did, harvest still speaks powerfully to our lives. It reminds us that every meal on our tables, every loaf of bread, every piece of fruit, is ultimately a gift from the hand of God. James reminds us that "every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights" (James 1:17). In a world where we are often encouraged to focus on what we lack or what we fear we might lose, the harvest calls us back to a posture of gratitude. To stop, look around, and recognise God's faithfulness. To say thank you not only for the food we enjoy but also for the many unseen ways in which He sustains our lives day by day.

As the weeks move on and the busyness of autumn settles in, October brings with it a steadier rhythm. Schools are fully back, work routines become more established, and the excitement of summer gives way to something more ordinary, more settled. It is easy in this season to slip into simply "getting through" until Christmas, but the middle of autumn can actually be a gift if we receive it rightly. It invites us to form habits that steady us for the long winter ahead. The Apostle Paul writes, "Let us not become

weariness in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9). October is a reminder that faithfulness in the ordinary, unseen days is deeply valuable. A life of quiet prayer, steady service, and trust in Christ, even when no one notices, is precious in God's sight. These weeks encourage us not to grow weary, but to lean on the Lord for strength as we walk with Him.

Then comes November, with its crisp mornings and its solemn air. This is the month when we gather for Remembrance, standing together in silence to honour those who laid down their lives in the service of others. It is always moving to see our community come together in gratitude and respect, recognising the cost of peace and the bravery of those who endured unimaginable hardship. As Christians, Remembrance also points us to a deeper truth: that Christ Himself laid down His life to bring us peace with God. In a world still scarred by conflict, His words carry both comfort and challenge: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives" (John 14:27). The peace of Christ is not fragile, nor is it temporary. It is the peace that flows from His cross and resurrection, and it is offered freely to all who turn to Him in faith.

These months remind us of some of the most vital truths of the Christian life. Harvest teaches us gratitude, that every good thing we enjoy is a gift from our heavenly Father. The quiet weeks of October teach us perseverance, that steady faithfulness in the ordinary matters more than we often realise. And Remembrance in November teaches us both gratitude for the sacrifices of others and hope in the greater sacrifice of Christ, who brings lasting peace.

So my encouragement is not to let these weeks slip by unnoticed. Let us pause to give thanks. Let us hold fast in faith when life feels ordinary. Let us remember with gratitude and live with hope. And as the year draws on towards Advent and Christmas, may these autumn months root us more deeply in Christ, who is faithful through every season.

Churchwarden's Corner



On Monday July 7th, I stood in St Mary's Church Beaconsfield, was nodded at by the Associate Archdeacon, and so began another year as Churchwarden.

Much has happened in the last year (I still do not think I know half of what I should be doing) but I would much rather focus upon the year ahead.

The survey, completed by so many, provided much food for thought and is being assessed by both the Worship Committee and the Discipleship & Mission Committee.

Some of the requests and issues are already being actioned. First among these is the James sermon series. What a wonderful book this is. Incredibly written close to 2,000 years ago it is so very relevant to each of us today.

Many expressed concerns about the state of the Reading Room. A small group is working with the PCC to assess what can be done and at what cost. (To help in this process, once we know what needs to be done, grants will be applied for, to supplement our own fundraising). Much work has been done on tidying the Reading Room garden, grateful thanks to those responsible, so do have a look.

Development of our youth and children's work was another aspect of concern to many. The PCC has agreed that we should look to recruit a Children and Families worker, and this we are pressing ahead with. At the same time, we are in negotiation with Action4Youth to take over the youth club premises on Narcot Lane. This is a fantastic facility; the surveyor identified some remedial works which are already being done, and our target is to have this operating by the end of this year (the youth club has not been active for more than two years).

We are also considering how to encourage greater focus on prayer, bible study and Discipleship. More will be announced on each of these, and any possible changes to services, in the coming months. We are planning to start to introduce testimonies of people's journeys in faith to encourage each of us in our own journeys.

Rev Paul and I have recently completed a 30-week study on the Book of Revelation with other group members at a study in Central London. It has been so helpful and enlightening to spend the time in study of His Word. Did you know the Book of Revelation contains seven blessings for us? A prize for whoever emails me first with the references.

Richard Silman



 Loving People. Transforming Lives. Glorifying God.
CHALFONT ST GILES
Parish Church
Gathering. Open. Seeking. Praying. Engaging. Welcoming.

11AM
7th Sept



Tent on the
green 11am

Service on
the Green

Bring a chair and join us



Farewell from Jenny

I am glad to have this chance to write a brief note to you all which will arrive with you as I prepare to join the team at St Mary's in Denham. I have been working with the benefice of Chalfont St Giles with Seer Green and Jordans since I was ordained in 2015; ten years (!!!)

It has been a huge privilege for me getting to know the villages and the people who live in them, piecing together history and family networks and developing competence in ministry (and you have all been my teachers in this!). We have worked together through Covid and through the double vacancy and I have truly valued accompanying marvellous and extraordinary people through key moments of life; weddings, baptisms and funerals, as well as through the general complications that life throws at us all, working with the team at St Giles and Holy Trinity and visiting the schools for assemblies.

I have added photos of just a few joyous memories from my time with you all. Advent ring making, the Covid crib service in the village, the flower pot Zaccheus story in the churchyard, ribbons tied to the church railings to remember Covid victims, marching for the climate in London, making Easter gardens in 2022, botanising in the churchyard...not to mention YZone and the home groups, Rendezvous, Alpha





and the Pilgrim courses - too much to list. Thank you all for such good times.

Being a shepherd of God's people is a great adventure but following the Good Shepherd Himself is an even greater one and with Him there is always something new (and usually challenging). When I spotted the advertisement for an associate

minister at St Mary's in Denham, I felt that one more change and challenge should be explored as I head into the last five years of licenced ministry and I am looking forward to finding out what happens next!

The hardest part of that decision was to leave my familiar work and friends from this area but I know that there will be new things springing up among you all as there are already.

"The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."





A Fond Farewell to the Reverend Jenny Tebboth

Jenny was ordained in Oxford Cathedral in July 2015. She commenced as a curate at St Giles Parish Church and was priested one year later.

For the past ten years Jenny has devoted herself to the ministry in Chalfont St. Giles Church as she and the Reverend Paul Henderson led and guided both St. Giles Church and Seer Green Church through the interregnum after the Reverend Ian Brown's retirement. They planned the rotas of the services and took church services in both churches which alleviated the responsibility of the church wardens.

Arriving on her bicycle or in her car, Jenny threw herself into the welfare of all those in the church, supporting and ministering not only to church members but to all in the local community.

Jenny's calling to the ministry was to spread the Good News of God's word through the Bible by her sermons, prayers, pastoral care, visiting the sick, taking home Communion, and bringing others into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. It drew her into helping at Yzone, seeing young people study the Bible and build friendships, encouraging midweek Communion, the All Souls' Service, Rendezvous, Chatterbox, Lent Lunches, Bring and Share Lunches as well as all the church festivals: Christmas and Easter, including Lent and Good Friday, and Harvest Festival. All these have been so much part of her ministry.

She was also fully committed to taking the services of weddings and funerals with the joy of weddings and the sadness of funerals. Jenny made sure she knew each family well so that the service was very personal to each family. This has been appreciated. At the beginning of her ministry Jenny encouraged groups to study and read books of the Bible from the Old and New Testaments. This she knew would draw people together for discussions, support and learning from each other whilst friendships, prayer and support brought many benefits. She led Bible Studies herself too.

In December Jenny took three months' break with her husband Lawrence to catch up with friends and family in Australia and consider where God would lead her in her ministry in the forthcoming years.

The past ten years have seen family arrivals for Jenny and Lawrence. Elder son Michael and his wife Abby now have three children so as grandparents they are needed to help while younger son, Andrew, married Beth three years ago. They all come together for family holidays and fun. They have frequent visitors at home through all their overseas connections.

We thank Jenny and Lawrence for the way they embraced all of Jenny's ministry in Chalfont St. Giles. We send our best wishes, our love and God's many blessings as Jenny begins her ministry in Denham.

Mary Bentall

'You who have great possessions.'

James Chapter 5, verses 1-4

Following Jenny's sermon on Sunday August 17 here are two suggestions for passing on items you no longer need. **The Kindness Club** is a non profit project which supports local and international aid based in Chalfont St Peter. Donations are collected at the blue container, Mon-Wed, 10-12.

Best way to find the Kindness Club.... Go along the 413 towards CSP and turn right just past the ambulances in CSP. Then go along a little way and turn right along a bumpy road! The project is run by local and Ukrainian volunteers. I have donated suitcases and toiletries which were appreciated.

The other organisation I have used recently on several occasions is **Freegle**, not Freecycle. No money changes hands and everything is arranged via the internet. Google it!! The site is easy to use; upload a photo of items to pass on, give details of the item and follow the prompts re collection. I have Freegled vinyl records, paint rollers, a forty plus year old tape recorder and kitchen stools, a bed and bedding, aviation books, wooden planters etc. It is amazing how keen folk are to collect unwanted items. Everyone who has come to the house has been so keen and a pleasure to meet. Usually a collection time is agreed but sometimes I have just left things in my porch to be collected.

Contact me with any queries.

Sue Wakeford

suewakeford@gmail.com



21 SEPT

SUNDAY

9:30AM

All Gifts Welcome

Donations to:

Chiltern Food Bank &
All Together Community Initiative

Specific Food Requested

- ❖ Fruit in jelly
- ❖ Tinned chicken
- ❖ Tinned mince beef
- ❖ Tinned vegetables
- ❖ Tinned soup
- ❖ Savoury biscuits
- ❖ Personal toiletries
- ❖ Deodorant
- ❖ Toilet roll
- ❖ Rice (500g)
- ❖ Chocolate
- ❖ Breakfast cereal
- ❖ Sardines
- ❖ UHT milk
- ❖ Long life juice
- ❖ Instant coffee
- ❖ Nappies
- ❖ Small washing powder
- ❖ Fresh fruit & vegetables welcome
- ❖ Pre order of Fair Trade harvest package to your chosen value from M Dykes to collect on the day
- ❖ Fair Trade Stall will be set up on the 21st September

Church Tours

The Friends, supported by the Churchwatch team, are implementing a programme of Church Tours which will showcase our beautiful church and its rich history. The objective is to reach out into the community, attract visitors and generate funds for the upkeep of the fabric of our church. The tour lasts for about one hour and is designed to be entertaining, informative and provocative, as it uncovers aspects of our near 900 year history. Admission is free. Visitors are encouraged to make a donation, but only if they are able and if they have enjoyed the tour.

Four pilot tours have already been delivered to U3A, Women's Institute and Local History Groups. The response has been very encouraging. "Brilliant! So many layers of history and all on our doorstep!" (GX U3A) "Thank you for conducting an excellent tour of the church this morning. It was highly informative and provided a deep history of artifacts and events which helped to shape its rich history. Please keep us informed of any future tours. (Comment posted by Mandeep of GX on Nextdoor after attending a tour on Aug 13.)

Our plan is to deliver a tour every first Thursday of the month, at 10.15 a.m. Accordingly, the next tour will be on Thursday 4th September at 10.15 a.m. Other tours for specific groups will be organised in addition.



Tour in progress

The tours are advertised as follows:

Join a curated tour of the church in Chalfont St Giles and enjoy an entertaining trip through eight centuries+ of local history. Featuring Henry VIII, Charles I, Cromwell, Charles II, Captain Cook, government ministers, rebellious priests, war heroes, sinister graffiti and grave robbing!

Tony Ferguson



All Souls Service
November 2nd
5pm



A chance to remember
those we have lost

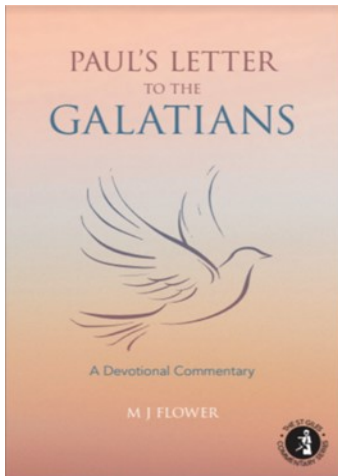
Remembrance Service

Chalfont St. Giles Parish Church
9th November

10am	Service in the church
10:50am	Service at the High Street War Memorial together with Scouts & Guides
11:30am	Uniformed service in the church



Lest we forget their service & sacrifice



In this issue, we have a preview of Mavis Flower's forthcoming book: ***Paul's letter to the Galatians: A Devotional Commentary***, the third volume in the ***St Giles Commentary Series***, due to be published in September.

Previous titles - ***The Acts of the Apostles: A Devotional Commentary*** and ***The King and the Kingdom: A Devotional Commentary on Matthew's Gospel*** are available on

Amazon, from book retailers, and in church.

The reason for the letter.

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you in the grace of Christ and turning to a different gospel; not that there is another gospel, but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But if we, or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we preached, let him be accursed.

Am I now seeking the favour of man or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still pleasing men, I would not be a servant of Christ. For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it. And I

advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. (Galatians Chapter 1, verses 6-17).

Paul had received news that a distressing situation had arisen in Galatia. There were believers who had come to faith in Christ, knowing that although they were Gentiles and not Jews, they were accepted by God into His family; and that they were part of the body of Christ.

But there were some among the believers who by race and nationality were Jews, who had come to faith in Christ but who were unwilling to leave behind their Jewish customs and traditions. They wanted to continue their observation of 'days, months, seasons and years' (Galatians 4:10), the whole of the Jewish calendar. But additionally, they wanted their new Gentile brothers and sisters to do the same, to obey the law of Moses. Above all, they insisted that to truly become a Christian the Gentiles needed to be circumcised.

This had the potential to do two things. It could create a hierarchy of believers, those both Jews and Gentiles who were following Jewish customs, 'superior' believers; and those who were not. It also converted Christianity into a Jewish sect. Unless a believer was circumcised or born of a Jewish mother and whose father had been circumcised, he or she was not fully Christian.

This teaching was complete anathema to Paul. It was a complete reversal of the gospel. It was salvation by the works of the law, not by the hearing of faith. (Galatians 3:2,10). It was the perversion of the gospel into a different gospel. (Galatians 1:6), a gospel contrary to, and in fact in opposition to, the gospel preached to the Galatians by Paul and Barnabas. (Acts 13:2,5; 14:12).

Paul pleads with the Galatians not to be deceived 'by those

who trouble you', (Galatians 1:7), 'those who would unsettle you', (Galatians 5:12), for to submit to their teaching is to turn away from the true gospel to a different gospel, and to desert Him who called them in the grace of Christ. They would fall from grace, they would be accursed, (Galatians 1:8), because they would be substituting the reality of gospel truth which was for all people, everywhere, and for all time, for a spurious gospel, limited in both objective and personnel and thereby making it of no effect, annulling it.

Paul writes that it is astonishing that this restrictive, shadow version of the gospel should have taken hold so quickly. It may be that the speed by which this alternative teaching has been accepted by the Galatian believers owed something to the disparagement of Paul's authority as an apostle, by 'the troublemakers', (Galatians 1:7), those agitators, who were encouraging the believers to doubt Paul's credentials. While he and Barnabas had been among them, they had listened eagerly to, and responded with alacrity to, all that had been spoken, but now Paul was a long way away, and how easy it is to forget, and even to embrace some new teaching.

When Paul first came among them, they welcomed him and though his condition was a trial to them, they did not scorn or despise him, but 'received him as an angel of light, of God'. (Galatians 4:14). Paul does not describe his symptoms, but does continue to write that if possible, they would have plucked out their own eyes and given them to him, (Galatians 4:15), which seems to be an obvious indication that there was something wrong with his eyes.

In such a short time, how had he become their enemy? (Galatians 4:16). Was it because the alternative teaching had become so persuasive, giving the Galatians the impression that they were indeed a very special elite people, although to Paul it had become obvious that they had become trapped, even if

comfortably trapped, in their own little world.

Paul's authority.

No wonder that Paul felt it necessary to emphasize his apostleship, his call to be an apostle to the Gentiles as well as to the Jews. He goes right back to the beginning of his fourteen (Galatians 2:1), or even seventeen (Galatians 1:18) years of experience, to establish his independence from any human agency. Though he had spent time in Jerusalem, he had received no authorization from anyone, not even from the apostles in Jerusalem who had been apostles before him, the leaders of the Jerusalem church.

F.F. Bruce quotes Calvin as noting that in attacking Paul, the troublemakers were attacking the truth of the gospel. (Bruce p 22). Paul is teaching that there is only one gospel. These troublemakers were claiming the possibility of other ways of living the life of faith, but this was heresy. Of course, Paul was defending himself and his apostolic authority against these false teachers, but this was not to establish his own teaching as orthodox while theirs was heretical, but because of the impossible situation into which his beloved Christian converts had been drawn. Before they came to Christ, had they been able to keep the law? The answer was 'no'. Then why, after they had been released from the bondage of the law by faith in Christ, did they want to return to a yoke of slavery? (Galatians 5:1). Paul writes, 'My little children, with whom I am again in travail until Christ be formed in you', (Galatians 4:19), surely indicating how precious to him were the Galatian Christians.

Paul's autobiography.

Paul feels it incumbent on him to expand his claim to the views he held, and he begins by reiterating his whole desire to please God. It appears from Galatians 1:10, that there had been a time when he had sought to please men. But he says, 'Now, am I seeking the favour of men or of God? Am I trying to please men? If I

were still pleasing men I should not be a servant of Christ'. (Galatians 1:10).

Paul's former policy of trying to please men had been before he met the Lord Jesus Christ on the Damascus road. He had been diligent in seeking out those who called themselves 'the way', 'disciples of the Lord'; (Acts 9:1,2), that he might bring them, both men and women, bound to Jerusalem, there to be punished.

This ruthless behaviour was because he was convinced that this new phenomenon of people who were afterwards called Christians, (Acts 11:25), was undermining the Jewish faith to which he belonged, and which he felt so strongly to be a way of achieving righteousness before God. (Philippians 3:6). And this righteousness he felt he had achieved before any of his contemporaries, his own countrymen. (2 Corinthians 11:26). Paul says, 'I had advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers'. (Galatians 1:14).

This was when he was trying to please men rather than God, he says, although perhaps he was trying to do both at the same time, advancing in Judaism and also persecuting the church of God. He had discovered that to do this was nearly always a mistake, and almost always impossible. But this perceived inconsistency in his behaviour needed to be resolved and could only be resolved by a personal, life changing encounter with Jesus, the image of the invisible God whom he had been trying to serve. (Colossians 1:15).

Now writing to the Galatians, Paul is saying that these false brethren, brought in unawares, may have noted this inconsistency from his past, and were using it by applying it to Paul's present situation. Once inconsistent, always inconsistent, was the character flaw which they saw in Paul. (Galatians 2:4).

This was why Paul was determined that they should know that though he once sought to please men he did so no longer. All his thoughts, all his intentions were how to please God, but not in the old way of striving after perfect obedience to the law and thus achieving righteousness, but resting in the gift of righteousness won for him and all believers on the cross, the gift of being made righteous through faith in, and acceptance of, the righteousness of Christ.

The Galatian believers knew of Paul's former life in Judaism, how he persecuted the church violently and tried to destroy it. Paul had advanced in Judaism beyond many of his contemporaries, and was zealous for the traditions of his fathers. At that time, in his view, the followers of Jesus who were witnessing to the life and saving death and resurrection of Jesus were being blasphemous. Had God not revealed His Son to me and in me on the Damascus road, says Paul, I would have continued to regard the witness of those early disciples as blasphemous.

But by the grace of God to him, as one born out of due time, Christ appeared to him, and His grace towards him was not in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:8,10) From Paul's personal encounter with Jesus, whom Paul had persecuted when he had persecuted those who were followers of Jesus, (Acts 9:5), emerged a personal relationship with Him which became the absolutely dominating feature of his life. This wonderful encounter was the imperative to preach Jesus among the Gentiles, and kings, and the sons of Israel. (Acts 9:16). Paul wanted everyone to engage with Jesus and to receive new life in Him, just as he had.

FAIR TRADE : LIVING THE BIBLE
THE MISSION IS STILL VALID AND THE WORK IS NOT FINISHED



PRODUCT NEWS

Traidcraft tea is winning awards again! Boxes of this delicious and extremely ethical tea will be available on the stall but if you can't wait that long please give me a call. Also winning an award is Café Direct Mayan Gold organic ground coffee which has been named BEST ORGANIC COFFEE at the 2025 BOOM Awards. BOOM (Best Of Organic Market) are the UK's only awards that recognise and celebrate the organic sector. Absolutely delicious is the opinion of the judges. In a blind taste test judged by chefs, food writers and TV food experts, Mayan Gold stood out for its rich, vibrant flavour. Why not try a packet? Mayan Gold is strength 5 and costs £5.00. Café Direct has been working with coffee farming co-operatives for over 30 years building long term partnerships. It's a win-win situation. Their expert farmers get the support they need to produce the very best beans and we can enjoy a truly exceptional and award-winning coffee. Organic is still rare in the coffee aisle but it delivers far more taste: right by the planet (no chemicals giving a healthier biodiversity), right by the farmers (no water pollution and healthier soils) and right by coffee drinkers (better for your gut microbiome)

A new product on the stall is CLIPPER SERIOUSLY VELVETY HOT

CHOCOLATE We are struggling to source Divine hot chocolate but have found this product from Clipper Teas. Clipper only work with producers who are striving to improve standards of welfare for workers and their families and have produced this seriously delicious hot chocolate to which only hot water needs to be added. The 350g tubes cost £4.00.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This is on September 21st and I am once again offering bags of fair-trade goods for you to give to the Harvest Festival. These will be filled with goods in demand by the local food bank. What could be easier? Just let me know how much you wish to spend and whether you wish me to donate it directly with the harvest gifts or wish to collect it yourself from the back of Church. You can also collect from the stall on the day or ask me to deliver to you. Pay either by cash or card on the 21st or into our bank account.

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT

This year the special fortnight runs from September 22nd to Sunday 5th October so look out for special promotions in local shops. The fair-trade coffee morning in Chalfont St Peter is on October 1st so we will be having some special (exciting!) events happening.

FOOD BANK

Supplies are still required by the food bank. Demand remains high especially during the school holidays and we continue to supply them so please do not stop your generous donations.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Once again Transform Trade are offering a great range of Christmas cards and gift wrap. Choose from wonderful Christian cards to tasteful secular ones. I hope to have a display on the October stall. The 10 or 20 card packs and the packs of wraps are all plastic free, made in the UK with eco-friendly inks and water-based coatings.

FAIR TRADE STALLS

In church September 21st (Harvest Festival), October 19th, November 23rd and in Chalfont St Peter Church Hall on Wednesday morning, 10.00am to 12.00 (great homemade cake as well!) October 1st, November 5th, December 3rd. But do call if you need some goods. I am happy to deliver.

A poor man's field may produce an abundant harvest but injustice sweeps it away." Proverbs 13 v 23

Margaret Dykes 07919314461 margaretdykes@btinternet.com

QUIZ

SATURDAY AFTERNOON 4th OCTOBER CHALFONT ST PETER
PARISH CHURCH HALL

Luke Maxted was the Children's Worker at the Church in Chalfont St Peter but has since set up Urban Promise UK which exists to serve children and young people, helping them to thrive and break through barriers to opportunity and success. They provide mentoring, training and holistic support. Our first quiz last November raised sufficient funds to radically help two young people. It provided sufficient funds for their year's tuition as well as revision guides and stationery to assist with their exams. If you would like to support our second quiz, tickets cost £15 and it starts at 2pm in the Church Hall. During the break we will serve homemade cakes, tea and coffee.

To reserve a table of 6 please contact
scolebrook@btinternet.com or me
margaretdykes@btinternet.com. If you can't make a table of 6 we will find you places.

To find out more about this wonderful charity have a look at their website www.urbanpromise.org.uk



CSG CHURCH

Autumn Light Party

WHEN: 2ND NOVEMBER (SUNDAY)
HALLOWEEN ALTERNATIVE
WHERE: READING ROOM 4:00PM
WHAT: CRAFTS & GAMES
SNACKS & SAUSAGES



CHALFONT ST GILES
Parish Church

Notre Dame Palingenesis

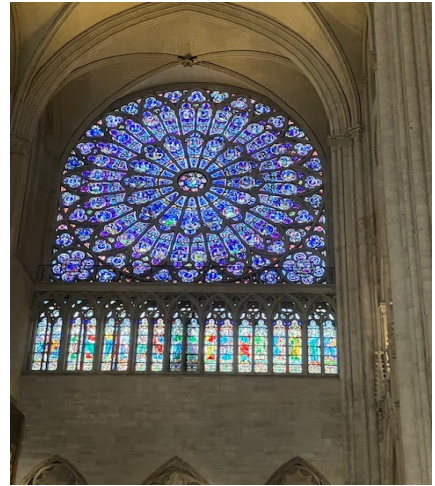
Seventy years ago I became a choirboy at Swindon's parish church, Christ Church. This was not particularly for any religious reasons but that in those days sons of Swindon railway workers would have to have jobs if they wanted any pocket money, and it was a choice between daily paper round or milk round, both early mornings seven days a week and in all weathers. My cousin had joined the choir at Christ Church a few years earlier and my mother and his mother encouraged me to make the same move. We received a small monthly payment for the morning and evening services and one weekly choir practice, but the big 'earner' was weddings on a Saturday afternoon as it was a popular location at the top of the hill overlooking the town. The point I am getting to is that when you are a choir boy, with absolutely no interest in the vicar's weekly sermon or his musings to the 'happy couple' your mind strays to the glass windows. In English churches, much like St Giles', the stained glass told religious stories, and having studied every pane over the altar at Christ Church I became a bit obsessive about church glass and the stories being told through them. If on holiday, especially abroad in Europe, if a church was open I would want to judge it by the quality of its glass.



Cathedrals in the same way have always amazed me by their magnificence and I am in sheer awe of how such structures were built six or more centuries ago. The height of them, the masonry and the glass windows seem almost impossible to comprehend. For me all these wonders came together when I first visited

Paris in the 1960s and stepped inside Notre Dame.

Its structure is like many other cathedrals, but the windows are not just religious stories but also beautiful designs and colours. The famous 'rose windows' exuded purples, violet, pink, greys rather than traditional yellows, reds and greens of English churches. The many other windows are also more important for their colours than their stories.



When I woke in April 2019 and the story of Notre Dame's fire was news my first thoughts were of the damage that could have occurred to the glass and especially the massive round 'rose windows'. As it happened such damage was relatively small. I had imagined the heat would affect the glass and wood structures at the same time but it hadn't.

I visited Paris recently with a main objective of seeing the brilliant results of the French specialist workmen and it is stunning. Although it was obviously always a tourist attraction in



Paris the whole experience now involves a three hour queue all day every day, and a church consequently with people shoulder to shoulder as many people are seemingly mesmerised by the whole experience. The glass was still as I had remembered it and with the cleaning of the stone it almost seemed like a new building with modern designers

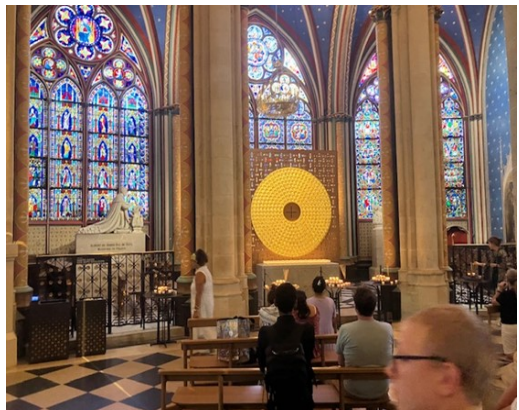


of the glass. High and low I found it impossible not to just stare and keep staring. I have another interest in church organs with their multiple pipes and multiple keyboards and breath-taking sound when 'in full flow'. Therefore another surprise I had was that the Grand Organ with 8000 pipes had very few damaged and this was only due to water damage. However it had had to be completely refurbished because of the burnt lead

dust that fell from the roof into the pipes.

The work isn't complete and scaffolding is still in place and sadly, though some of the very old glass survived, it is being taken to a museum, to be replaced by new designs from new artists. We left on a very warm day and found a very welcoming French bar just across from the Cathedral Esplanade, which is also due for a complete new design. My thoughts, with a glass of cold lager in hand, were to come back again when these new glass designs are in place. The visit was part of my 'bucket list' but hopefully my bucket won't have 'been kicked' before this happens!

Roger Foord



MILTON'S COTTAGE

Paradise Maintain'd

Literary Paradise

Milton's Cottage is the only surviving residence of the visionary poet and parliamentarian, John Milton – the place where he sought refuge during the Great Plague of 1665 to complete his epic masterpiece, *Paradise Lost*. It is part of our shared national heritage, offering everyone the opportunity to experience where literary history was made.



Based in Chalfont St. Giles, Buckinghamshire, Milton's Cottage has been open to the public since 1887, making it one of the oldest writers' house museums in the world. It houses an internationally important collection of his first editions and is home to a unique literary garden.

Milton's Cottage Trust (CIO) is the registered charity that has been set up to protect and enhance this irreplaceable literary landmark for future generations. As part of this process, we are committed to engaging new audiences with Milton's extraordinary legacy and ensuring it is accessible and available to everyone.

Literature & Liberty

Paradise Lost changed the course of English literature forever. From Blake to the Bronte sisters, Thomas Jefferson to James Joyce,

Mary Shelley to Toni Morrison, it continues to inspire readers and writers around the world today.



Milton's collection



Milton is also one of history's leading advocates of liberty. As Secretary for Foreign Tongues (and unofficial spin doctor) to Britain's only republican government he played a significant role in the revolutionary

upheaval that brought modern Britain to birth.

The political pamphlets he wrote during these years influenced the revolutionaries of America and France more than 100 years later, while *Areopagitica* – his iconic defense of the freedom of the press - inspired the first amendment to the American constitution. His memorable interrogations of free speech, freedom of worship, the right to divorce, liberty - and the threat to it - make him the most modern of 17th century writers.

The Next Chapter

Milton's Cottage is a site of unparalleled cultural significance and support for our future will help us reach its full potential. It will activate our world-class collection of Miltonic first editions, develop our literary garden as an important environmental resource, fire the imagination of our visitors – and all from the writer's own home.



Milton's Literary Garden

This unique site contains Milton's Cottage [Grade 1 listed] and Milton's literary garden [Grade 2 Registered] recognised by English Heritage because the bulk of the trees, flowers and shrubs planted in the garden are mentioned in Milton's works. There is also Milton's iconic collection of over 500 books and artefacts.

To ensure that current and future generations appreciate Milton's legacy as it affects our lives today, the Trust runs a variety of social impact projects dealing with inequality, disability through partial sight or blindness and building confidence and self-esteem.

Milton advocated to his contemporaries that "we need to learn to disagree agreeably". His championing of this idea is hugely relevant to our polarized world today.



Milton's Social impact Project

Milton's Cottage Trust (CIO), 21 Deanway, Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire,
HP8 4JH

Tel :01494 872313 ● info@miltonscottage.org ● www.miltonscottage.org

Charity registration number: 1163039

A Visit to Chalfont St Giles 1899

Tony Ferguson received this from Rik Edwards from Chorleywood

You might be interested in something I have been looking at recently. My wife's grandfather Harry Bond kept a meticulous diary of his holidays from 1891-1901. One entry describes a visit by bicycle from London to Chalfont St Giles in 1899 when he was 19:

"CHALFONT-ST-GILES. Bank Holiday, August 7th 1899. Taking the Uxbridge Road out of London, we soon arrived in that busy Market town of Uxbridge. Passing thro' the town, we stopped for liquid refreshment at the "olde Treaty House". This house was built in 1575, and is noted for the reason that Charles II signed an important Treaty in one of the upper Rooms. The owners kindly allow visitors to see the room, which is heavily panelled with carved oak.

Continuing our ride to Chalfont St Giles, we had dinner & then entered the old Parish Church. A verger conducted us over the building, which proved very interesting. Some frescoes were lately discovered by removing the whitewash on the walls. One of them is curious, representing the daughter of Herodias standing on her head. John the Baptist's head on a charger is all the design visible on another fresco. The stained glass windows by Kemp are very beautiful.

Two private chapels are for the use of the owners of neighbouring estates, "The Grove" & "The Vache". A hole in the wall is known as the "Leper's Squin" & is where the lepers originally listened to the sermon without fear of contaminating the other members of the congregation.

Mr. Ritchie, the Home Secretary, owns property in the neighbourhood, & has a pew in this church.

A curious brass near the altar commemorates the death of a knight & the engraving portrays his two weeping wives, and no less than eighteen sorrowing children.

On the walls, are several of the text plates in use at the Cromwellian period. The carved oak Screen is claimed to be the work of Grinling Gibbons, of St Paul's Cathedral fame.

We ascended the Belfry stairs & obtained a good view of the surrounding country. Leaving the Church we walked thro' the Village & stopped outside Milton's Cottage, in which it is claimed he wrote "Paradise Lost". Visitors are charged sixpence admission."

Did Harry get his facts right? To read more follow this link:

<http://rikramblings.com/2025/05/28/chronicles-of-my-holiday-wanderings-1891-1901-by-harry-bond/>

TOY SERVICE

NOVEMBER 30TH
9:30 AM

Help donate new toys or gift cards for children less fortunate.

Bring gifts and gift cards to the service on the 30th December or drop in the office earlier if needed.



Made with PosterMyWall.com

TOY SERVICE

SUGGESTED GIFTS



Gift Vouchers are welcome for all ages

- *0-3 years: dolls, teddy bears, cot mobiles, baby clothes, bath toys, CDs of suitable music and nursery rhymes, puzzles, bath toys
- *3-5: dolls and action figures, cars, lorries, DVDs and CDs (music and nursery rhymes), colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles
- *5-9: educational games & toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), CDs & family friendly DVDs, books, puzzles, lego, wordsearch, crosswords
- *9-12: games and toys, stationery, DVDs, books, t-shirts, hair accessories, models, lego, gloves, scarves, hats
- *13-16: books, make-up and toiletries (please try to ensure non-allergic ingredients if possible), gloves, scarves, hats, t-shirts, hair accessories



PACK A SHOEBOX

SEND GOOD NEWS & GREAT JOY AROUND THE WORLD

Please bring filled shoeboxes to
Chalfont St. Giles Parish Church
 By **November 16th at 12:00pm**

- Take an empty medium sized shoebox, and wrap the box and lid separately in colourful wrapping paper
- Attach the appropriate gender and age label available at the back of church
- Fill your shoebox with a selection of fun toys, hygiene items and school supplies
- If possible, include one or two extra special items you know a child will love such as a doll, cuddly toy or deflated football with pump
- Include your project **donation of £5** to cover costs for shipping
 - If you would like to follow your box's journey give online and put the printed bar code in the box (website link below)
- Personalise your shoebox by including a hand written note and a photograph of yourself, your group or your family. You may also like to pray for the child that will receive your gift
- Return your box to church by 12:00pm on Sunday 16th November 2025
- **Please remember no liquids, toothpaste, or sweets**
- More information and gift ideas can be found on the website at [Operation Christmas Child](#) | [Samaritan's Purse](#) or scan this QR code
- If you would like to pack a box online for £25 there is a link at the bottom of the webpage connected to this QR code

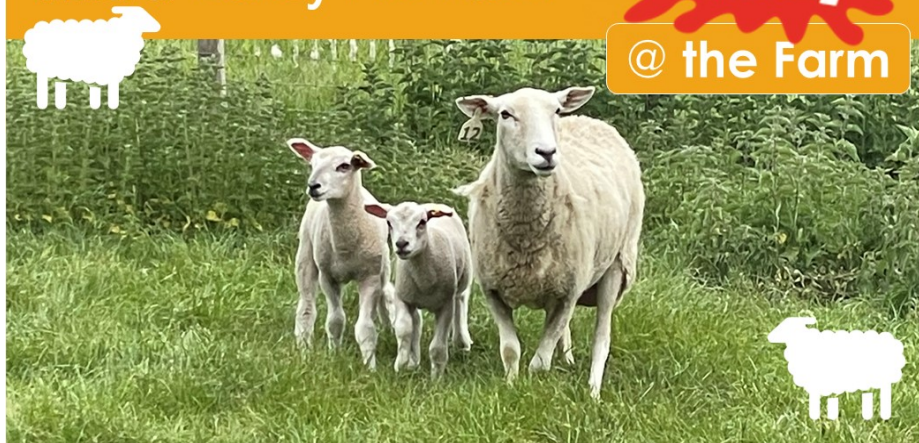


When: 5th October
4-5:30pm

Where: Bailey Hill Farm



@ the Farm



QUIZ CORNER

Only one entry again so congratulations to Mel and Chris for a fully correct entry. I have a dilemma – do I make it more difficult to confound them or make it easier to encourage more entries? Judge for yourselves! This time the subject is English Parliamentary constituencies. In the case of number 8 the answer is part of a large city but the name of the city is not needed, just the constituency within the city.

1. Normally naked fowl (9)
2. Dutch distiller finished (8)
3. Organised and put in order by the sound of it (5)
4. Sounds as if the badgers have arrived 10)
5.or are doing the pulling (8)
6. Putting oil on Ben with missing reverse saint (11)
7. The cannibals showed mercy to their captives? (8)
8. Arthur mourned by Alfred (6)
9. Dark stream (9)
10. Serious fake (9)

Answers to the last quiz: 1. Yarmouth 2. Pontefract 3. Howard 4. Durham
5. Southsea 6. Deal 7. Kenilworth 8. Skipton 9. Lindisfarne 10.

CHRIS WEEKS TRIO – Jazz & Rock’n’Roll

Chris Weeks had us dancing in the aisles once again as he returned to the Church with his dynamic Trio for an uplifting evening of rock 'n' roll and jazz with a touch of country music too!

On Wednesday 9 July we were treated to a show from the Chris Weeks Trio: Chris himself on lead vocals, piano, and guitar; Tomek Sowinski on bass, vocals, and piano; and Joe Butcher on drums and guitar. Each of these talented musicians is a multi-instrumentalist and vocalist, bringing energy, musical skills and sheer joy to a good-size audience. Not only was it a toe-tapping experience, but many were clapping and singing along, and getting up to dance to the most lively numbers. It's an evening we won't forget in a hurry and the profit will support the work of the Friends of the Church. Sharing, for those who have asked for it, the set list:

Set one:

Mess Of Blues – Pomus & Schuman / Elvis Presley
Let's Have A Party - Wanda Jackson / Elvis Presley
The Lady Is A Tramp – Rogers & Hart / Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Lady Gaga
Witchcraft – Coleman & Leigh / Frank Sinatra
That'll Be The Day – Buddy Holly & Jerry Allison
Blue Suede Shoes – Carl Perkins
Teenager In Love – Pomus & Schuman / Dion & The Belmonts
Wipeout – The Surfaris
Great Balls Of Fire – Blackwell & Hammer / Jerry Lee Lewis
Folsom Prison Blues – Johnny Cash & Gordon Jenkins
Not Fade Away – Buddy Holly & Norman Petty
Rave On – West, Tilghmann & Petty / Buddy Holly
Wichita Lineman – Jimmy Webb / Glenn Campbell

Set Two:

Fly Me To The Moon – Bart Howard / Frank Sinatra
Have You Met Miss Jones – Rogers & Hart / Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Robbie Williams
I Only Have Eyes For You – Warren & Dubin / Dick Powell, Flamingos, Art Garfunkel
Don't Get Around Much Anymore – Ellington & Russell / Duke Ellington

Can't Help Falling In Love – Peretti, Creatori & Weiss (based on “Plaisir d’amore”) / Elvis Presley
Heartbeat – Kaz & Waldman / Don Johnson, Buddy Holly
Maybe Baby – Holly & Petty / Buddy Holly
Raining In My Heart – Felice & Boudlaux Bryant / Buddy Holly
It Doesn't Matter Anymore – Paul Anka / Buddy Holly
No Particular Place To Go – Chuck Berry
Real Wild Child – Johnny O’Keefe
Johnny B. Goode – Chuck Berry

Claire Long

SOMER IS ICUMEN IN!

On 28th June we were treated to a delightful hour of music by the St Giles Consort based loosely on the theme of summer. It was a bonus to be able to sit for an hour in the cool of the church and be royally entertained. The name was taken from the first song we heard which is a medieval round and the consort moved around the church as they sang which gave us a chance to hear the different parts clearly.

We heard a selection of English songs, including those collected and arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams, followed by a mix of French, Italian and Swedish songs. Peter Langdale and Lynda Weiss gave us the words and read them in translation so that those of us with little grasp of Renaissance French or Italian could understand what was going on. The concert ended with some more modern pieces: the very familiar “Lullaby of Birdland”, an interesting arrangement of “Hakuna Matata” from “The Lion King” and “Chattanooga Choo Choo”

As always the consort sang beautifully (I detected at least one substitute among their ranks) and the choice of music was a good balance between the unfamiliar and music we recognised. It also had a balance between lively and melancholic songs.

After the concert Pimm’s and strawberries were served in the churchyard. The retiring collection was divided between the All Together Community and the Alzheimer’s Society.

THE CHURCHFITTERS

FOLK UNLIMITED



« The most musically inventive
band that I have seen in decades »

Dave Pegg, Fairport Convention

An evening with the Churchfitters

Friday 26th September

In the Chalfont St Giles Memorial Hall, HP8 4JJ

Doors & bar (card only) open at 6.45pm, start at 7.30pm

Tickets £15 each from the Community Library or on-line via

www.churchfitters.com or

www.ticketsource.co.uk/chalfont-st-giles-memorial-hall

contact@churchfitters.com

www.churchfitters.com

Rectory Garden Party

Saturday July 5th dawned grey and cloudy, but undaunted, a good number of us arrived in the afternoon at the Rectory garden, complete with umbrellas, chairs and cake!

The lawn was newly mown, Pimm's and soft drinks on tap and the trampoline and playthings set out for the children. The cakes were a wonder.

Despite a drizzly patch, we declined to go indoors and were rewarded with sunshine later. It turned out to be a great afternoon, time to meet with old friends and chat to those we know less well.

Very many thanks to Dan and Paula for their warm hospitality
Eileen Baldwin



Sea Sunday

Sea Sunday will be celebrated on 19th October.

Do come along a show your support for all the Chaplains and staff do for the Seafarers, who lead such different and difficult live to keep us stocked with all our needs.

Cards will be on sale as in previous years. Thank you.

Please find information about the Mission to Seafarers on the following pages.

Lent Lunches

Dates for your diaries:

Fridays February 20th and 27th, March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th.

If you cannot lend a hand with the work, please note the dates for convivial lunchtimes in the Reading Room.



*Choral
Evensong*

Sunday Sept
28th
Harvest

Nov 23rd
Christ the King

6pm

The Mission to Seafarers



Support for seafarers and their families in 2024

IN THE PHILIPPINES

1,738

SEAFARERS AND THEIR FAMILIES ATTENDED

FAMILY

NETWORK AND

WE CARE

EVENTS AND...



1,001

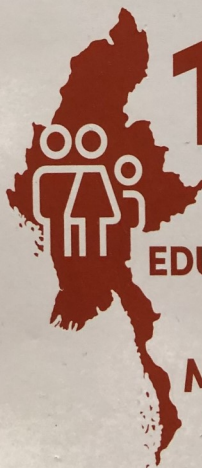
RECEIVED JUSTICE AND WELFARE SUPPORT



85,240

SEAFARERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS ARE BENEFITTING FROM

KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS OF WE CARE TRAINING



186

SEAFARERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN

EDUCATIONAL COURSES

RUN BY

MYANMAR

FAMILY NETWORK



2,050
SEAFARERS



AND FAMILY MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN OUR

FAMILY NETWORK
IN TUTICORIN

We are one of the world's largest providers of port-based welfare services, operating in over 200 ports across 50 countries, 365 days a year.

Your support in 2024 has contributed to the following achievements:



Parish Directory

Parochial Church Council	(area code: 01494)	
Chair	The Rector	
Hon. Secretary	Peter Miles	872465
Hon. Treasurer	John Southworth	581130
Electoral-Roll Officer	Kathleen Martin	870 704
Stewardship Recorder	Chris Neville	873 457
Pastoral-Care Co-ordinator	Margaret Carey	762 341
Chatterbox organiser	Marion Miles	872465
Messy Church Co-ordinator	Dan Beesley	211 738
YZone (group for 11-15s) Co-ordinator	Dan Beesley	
Church Watching	Tony Ferguson	07769 361 795
Reading-Room Bookings	Richard Silman	07786194695
	Janelle Stevenson	07771423553
Church Choir	Cathy Langdale	581 385
Bell-Ringing Master	John Davidge	873 325
Flower Guild	Sylvia Morrison-Moore	07798766322
Fair Trade	Margaret Dykes	07919314461
Friends of the Parish Church	Claire Long	875 445
Safeguarding Officer	Victoria Neil	
	victoriacneil42@gmail.com	
Parish Magazine	Rachel Leonard	872791



Loving People
Transforming Lives
Glorifying God