



The Spire

The Parish Magazine of
CHRIST CHURCH
— Southgate —

October 2021

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Welcome!

From The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert Vicar of Christ Church Southgate

Welcome to *The Spire* magazine for October. The new term has well and truly started with all sorts of things coming back as we get used to living under the government's covid plan A. We will be planning as normal a Christmas as possible, but if anything changes, we will stick with our policy of following all guidance to be as safe as possible.

At the end of this month, we have the Sunday of celebrating All Saints in the morning and All Souls in the evening, with the Duruflé Requiem accompanying the service to remember those we have loved and lost. This will again be particularly poignant given the last 18 months we have all had. If you would like your loved ones remembered by name, send them to Caroline in the office or fill in the sheets that will be at the back of church.

The same weekend will see the start of the COP26 talks in Glasgow. As you may know, I walked a leg of the Young Christian Climate Network (YCCN) relay from Cornwall to Glasgow, when it passed near us from Muswell Hill to Borehamwood. I was

also privileged to attend a Zoom meeting last week as Bishop Rob's representative at a seminar for Anglican bishops, organised by the worldwide Anglican Communion, to discuss how to give a lead in the run-up to the talks. It was astonishing to be in a breakout group with three bishops – from Zimbabwe, Southern Sudan, and the Philippines – as well as a representative from Cape Town, to hear first-hand descriptions of the impact of climate change. Farmers are almost being wiped out by the huge reduction in rainfall and huge areas are in danger of becoming uninhabitable. When there is rain, it comes in brief deluges that destroy homes and livelihoods by flooding and mudslides. The Nile is in danger of drying up as the mountain range that is the source has its snow cap reduced by 90%. The loss of that waterway would be a disaster. In Cape Town earlier this year, they were days away from having to turn off all mains water to homes and businesses as supply was so short. All of this made it so timely that we were able to send £1,000 to Water Aid as the result of the St Swithun's Challenge that we took over the summer. It was

pointed out to me that it is ok in your rich country in London – if it looks like flooding you just shut the Thames Barrier.

What came through so clearly is that we must look outside our parish and country and join with our sisters and brothers across the world who are in immediate physical danger. Climate change might seem to us a matter of being careful with lightbulbs and doing a bit more recycling, but we are not at the sharp end of the actual effects on us. But as a bishop said to me – “It is the same storm, we are just in a different boat”. So, this Harvest Festival weekend we will be focusing on Climate Change by asking you to add the ‘fruits of your labours’ to care for the God’s beautiful planet to the trees in church.

This is very real and urgent. In the words of the UN General Secretary, António Guterres, “Humanity is waging war on nature”. Please do all you can, however small, to help bring justice to our sisters and brothers and care for what we have been given in trust. If nothing else, pray:

*May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marvelled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To reflect God’s glory in creation.*

[CTBI Eco-Congregation Programme]

Every blessing.

Fr Chrichton

Weekly Services

Sunday 8.00 am Said Eucharist
10.00 am Choral Eucharist
6.30 pm Evensong
Tuesday 7.30 pm Said Eucharist
(Healing on First + Third week)
Thursday 12.30 pm Said Eucharist

All welcome



Finding the Familiar in New Places

Within the worldwide Christian Church we know that each community is worshipping in its own way, which is almost the same as its neighbour, but every one is slightly different. Going to different churches to take services, and just visiting other places of worship, I am aware of the many similarities. It's not just the liturgy, or the words and music used, but it's also the design of the buildings and the decorations. The architect of Christ Church was George Gilbert Scott. He was a prolific architect and there are many buildings built to a similar design.

We are fortunate, at Christ Church, in having a wonderful collection of stained-glass windows from the William Morris workshop. Fortunately for us, Gilbert Scott worked with the artists at the William Morris workshop at a time when members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood were creating cartoons for windows which were to be copied and recreated all over this country and abroad.

Last week I had the sad task of officiating at the funeral of my late father's only surviving cousin. The funeral was in Hastings so we stayed a few extra days and visited Rye. We walked into the church, dedicated to St Mary the Virgin, totally unaware of its history. The building was started in the middle of the 12th century, and like all churches, has been added to over the years. Various artifacts and fabrics, including windows, have been added over time as memorials to departed loved ones.

One particular pair of windows caught my eye. Some of the faces of the characters, and the style, reminded me of our windows by Sir Edward Burne-Jones... they reminded me of windows by him, because the cartoons for the windows actually *were* by him! In this case, they depict the Virgin Mary – to whom the church is dedicated – together with Joseph and the baby Jesus, being visited by Angels and the Magi.



The story of the birth of Jesus is familiar to us all. The way the story is illustrated will vary slightly from artist to artist, from place to place. Likewise, there will be slight differences in how we worship God, but the essentials of our worship will be exactly the same in every Church. Every Christian, wherever they are in the world, strives to worship and love God, and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

Hazel Miall

Saint of the month: St. Luke, Feast Day October 18th



St. Luke is referred to by name three times only in Paul's letters. We know that he was at times a companion of Paul on his journeys – he went with him to Rome on his final journey and stayed with him to the end. From Paul's letters we can also conclude that he was a gentile, and his name tells us that he was probably a Greek. We also know that he was a doctor. So, was the man we know about through Paul's letters, the writer of the third gospel and the book of Acts? We cannot be sure, although we do know that these two books had the same author and were dedicated to the same man. However, nowhere in the books does the author actually name himself.

But Church tradition has associated Luke with these books from as far back as the year 200. The earliest known copy of the gospel, dating from that time, bears his name. Some information about authorship can also be gleaned from Acts. Towards the end of the book there are passages written

in the first-person plural. The author writes such things as 'we took ship to Cyprus' or 'And so we came to Rome' – it seems likely from this that the writer was at times a companion of Paul, and Luke, as we know from the letters, would fit this idea.

We can discover a bit more about this man by looking more closely at what he wrote. The third gospel and Acts are both written in excellent Greek, so clearly he was an educated man. He was concerned for underprivileged and poor people, for sinners and gentiles and women – all the people who were beyond the pale in Jewish Law and its interpretation.

Luke tells us the story of the shepherds at the manger – the first people to see the infant Jesus. Shepherds were outcasts – they couldn't keep the intricacies of the Law because of the very nature of their work. Luke is also the only Evangelist who includes in his gospel the well know parables of Jesus concerning poor and outcast people – the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son, and the Rich man and Lazarus. It seems clear to me that Luke approached the writing of his gospel from his point of view as a Gentile – an outcast – and from his deep compassion for suffering people.

Cathy Dallman

Image: St Luke from the Carmelo Cristo Redentor website at <https://carmelocristoredentor.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/lucas.jpg>

Prayer of the Month

A month down the road since our last magazine, and here in Britain we are gradually adjusting to a new normal. But some things never change, and as always in October the autumn harvest follows the summer sun. We have so much to be grateful for. But as ever, we also have no idea what lies around the next corner. What will the relaxation of the “Covid rules” bring? Will there be more severe weather events? How will the shipping and gas problems affect the availability of what we tend to consider necessities... our favourite food, our medicines, Christmas toys and gifts?

Whatever suddenly looms large in our day, it may be a challenge. But here in Southgate, we have a roof over our head, we have our friends, and we have our freedoms. The crucial point is that everything – good and bad – comes from God. Taking the good with the bad means trusting in Him. This is something that many a hymn writer has reflected on in years gone by. The Edinburgh born, nineteenth century, Scottish churchman, Horatius Bonar [1808-1889], was one such, and one of the hymns⁽¹⁾ for which he is remembered is a very appropriate prayer for all of us in these less than certain times, reminding us simply to trust in God:

*Thy way, not mine, O Lord.
However dark it be:
Lead me by thine own hand,
Choose out the path for me.*

*I dare not choose my lot;
I would not if I might:
Choose Thou for me, My God,
So shall I walk aright.*

*Take thou my cup, and it
With joy or sorrow fill,
As best to thee may seem;
Choose thou my good and ill.*

*Not mine, not mine the choice
In things both great or small;
Be though my guide, my strength,
My wisdom and my all.*

Amen.

(1) There are different versions of this hymn, with varying numbers of verses; the four verses/selected here are typically chosen as a standalone prayer.



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Social Responsibility Committee

The **St. Swithun's Fundraiser** was a great success and we have sent £1,000 to Water Aid. This will help bring clean fresh water to homes where none was available before.



September has seen the return of our **Charities Stall** at the back of church and sales have been good, raising £130. We are grateful for donations of books and mostly handmade goods for sale. Mrs Vicarage has sold £155-worth of her eco cards which will go to the RNLI, together with the proceeds of the Pre-Harvest Quiz. Soon we will have Christmas cards on the stall, too.

There is just a month before this year's **shoebboxes** will start their journey overseas. We sent 40 last year plus £200 for their carriage. I anticipate we will send 30 this time. My advert about shoebboxes can be seen on the opposite page. Please may I have contributions by Sunday 7th November.

Harvest gifts will be again be divided between the **Food Bank** and **Homeless Action in Barnet**. As usual the Food Bank are asking for tinned ready meals, soup, puddings and fruit, as well as dried and long-life goods, and toiletries. The box for donations is still just inside the main church door. Many local families are still reliant on our contributions and your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Following Harvest, I will make Piccalilli and Chutney with the fruit and vegetables used for decorating the church. However, this year I don't have a supply of apples for mincemeat, so if you have some that I can use, please let me know (contact details below).

Many thanks for your continuing support.



Hilary Meur
Tel.0208 3602362
Email ccsocrates@gmail.com

May I thank everyone for all the kind messages and cards I have received following Peter's death. I am overwhelmed at how many there are and I can't thank people individually. This is a difficult, lonely and sorrowful time for me, but I am wonderfully cheered and supported by the love, prayers, sympathy and good wishes that surround me.

My heartfelt thanks to you all.

Jill Holiday

Operation Christmas Child 2021

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Shoe boxes are thankfully still being delivered this year and I hope to send 30. I would be grateful as ever for any contributions towards the postage costs, or any of the items below...

crayons hair accessories car gloves
 notebooks stickers puzzle scarf purse
 doll jigsaw jewellery sunglasses
 hat ball skipping rope wind up torch
 slinky recorder water bottle harmonica

Alternatively you can fill your own box online for £20 at
www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Thank you, Hilary Meur



Because I love them – the Bible People

The Bible people wrote scripture that was inspired by God. God wrote the Bible. That's why I love them – they are His people. What do you think of these great characters – Abraham, man of faith; Moses, leader; David, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Matthew, Luke, John, Paul – holy ones we most revere and pay attention to? We ought to try to follow these great people. Women too: Sarah, Rebecca, Esther, Mary, Elizabeth...

Dear Joseph, Mary's husband, our blessed Lord Jesus' earthly father. John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, who baptized him in the River Jordan. Certainly, the very greatest bible figure that I adore, honour, serve, and look up to always is our blessed Jesus Christ, God's begotten son, born of a virgin (the immaculate conception: *A virgin shall conceive and bring forth a son* [Isaiah 7. 4-14]) and born a king (*The King...*

Gentle prince of peace... and of his kingdom there shall be no end [from Isaiah 9]). More beautiful chapters to read from Isaiah include 12 and 53.

The Bible people – how I love them! Mary, my precious King's mother, the blessed pure lady, St Mary! We must all try to be like her. How He, Jesus, must have loved her. And Rachel, Jacob's favourite wife; Joseph and Benjamin, her sons.

The list of names is special for me who loves the Bible people. It is a great joy for me to read this history of the Word – that I exalt in with all my heart.

'Meekness and majesty
 Manhood and deity
 Bow down and worship
 The Lord is his name'

With all devoted admiration to Jesus Christ
 from your loving servant, Lynda.

Lynda Corcoran

Serenade to Music

Patronal Festival Concert - Sunday 21st November 2021

SPONSORSHIP APPEAL



Choir of Christ Church Southgate

Bach Sinfonia Quartet

Our fabulous patronal festival concert returns on Sunday 21st November with a spectacular evening full of choral favourites. The Choir will perform Handel's *Zadok the Priest*, Mozart's *Laudate Dominum*, Parry's *I Was Glad* and *Blest Pair of Sirens*, and Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* (as heard on the BBC Proms this year). We are delighted also to welcome Liz Partridge back to Christ Church as she leads a professional string quartet to perform with the Choir.

However, we need your help in staging this wonderful concert. Please consider supporting our concert by becoming a sponsor. Standard tickets will be available in November.

Our sponsorship packages include:

Concert Friend: £35 – Complimentary pair of concert tickets, programmes, and reserved seats

Concert Associate: £75 – Complimentary pair of concert tickets, programmes, reserved seats and VIP interval reception **

Lead Sponsor: £100 or more – Two pairs of complimentary tickets, programmes, reserved seats and VIP interval reception. **

In gratitude, Sponsors' names or logos will be printed in the programme unless otherwise requested. For a concert sponsorship form please contact the Director of Music, Richard Brain, at music@christchurch-southgate.org or speak to him directly.

Concert profits go to the Choir Fund, helping to support our service music.

** Reception subject to COVID regulations and guidelines in place at the time of the event.

Friends of Christ Church Garden – Attracting Wildlife



As many of you know, we hope to attract more wildlife into the garden. We already have beehives which are well looked after and more than one 'bug hotel' but we hope to establish more facilities and encourage not only wild life but human interest, especially among the young. I am now coordinating other aspects of this project and so far have the help of my husband, Roger, and Ronald and Judith Lo. Roger has hung a bird feeder in the Churchyard; it is on a tree in the area to the left as you come out of the West door and is protected from squirrels by a dome, so is quite visible (see picture); it is also easily accessible. At the time of writing, we are waiting for the birds to find it and when they do, we need a weekly rota of volunteers to fill the feeder; once winter sets in, it needs to be filled every day or so. Sandra has offered Mondays. If you

can help, please email me (mgourd@hotmail.co.uk) or tell Sandra, Judith or Ronald. We would be grateful for donations of bird feed; supplies will be kept in the shed in the back garden of the church. Of course, people are welcome to bring their own if they prefer. The feeder is currently filled with the RSPB seed mix.

We also need to supply water for birds and other creatures. If anyone has a suitable receptacle such as a shallow bowl or metal dish which they could donate, again please let me know.

Another valuable asset would be a hedgehog house, so we would be grateful to hear from anyone who is prepared to construct one or offer advice.

Many thanks in advance.

Margaret Gourd

Note from the Editors

First and foremost, a thank you to all contributors who made our lives so much easier this month by sending files as soon as they were ready. This made it possible for Patricia to complete all the preparatory work of formatting and suchlike before disappearing – shock horror! – on *holiday!* What bad timing! But luckily, our authors are the best, and everything has gone like clockwork. Clare was able to input everything into the finished copy without any glitches. Thank you!

We would also like to say another thank you, this time to readers who have sent us such lovely messages since we told you about our decision to give up this work at Christmas. We would like to thank you for your very kind words and we are delighted to know that so many people have been enjoying our version of *The Spire* for the last couple of years.

It remains, then, to notify you that the deadline for the November edition will be Tuesday, 19th October 2021. Keep the pieces coming!

Clare & Patricia



Parish Life in Pictures

September 2021



Clockwise from the top: brisk trade for London Open House on the 4th and 5th September; the re-opened Children's Corner.



From the top left to right: return of the hymn numbers; installation of two new chorists at the start of the new choir term; new team photographs.

Remembering Margery Elizabeth Sutcliffe (née Hewson)



Betty was born in 1927 at Tugby, a small rural village in Leicestershire, where her father, the Revd. George Hewson, had been the vicar for about five years. He was born in Limerick, grew up mostly in Dublin, and was ordained in Liverpool, where he met his wife, Margery Shaw, who was originally from Birkenhead. Betty was the sixth of their nine children, and the third to have been born in the vicarage at Tugby. The eldest three children had been born in the west of Ireland in his previous parish in County Kerry. Betty was thus from a large family, and eventually had three sisters and five brothers. Her recollections of her early childhood were very happy, but things changed abruptly when was six years old and her mother died in childbirth. It must have been a very difficult time for her father, because after a while Betty and one of her older sisters, Kathleen, were put together into foster care. They went to live for a while at Craven Arms, in

Shropshire, and then more permanently back in Leicestershire with the family of another vicar in another small country village, this time north west of Melton Mowbray. This began a miserable period for Betty and Kathleen. The fostering did not work well, and after a time they lost touch with their family, and for a long time didn't know where they were. It turned out that after a few years their father had remarried, left Tugby, and gone to work in York. After a year or two there he had found another country parish, this time in the East Riding of Yorkshire at Witherwick, which is east of Hull, a short distance inland from the sea. Meanwhile Betty and Kathleen had become teenagers, going to school at Melton Mowbray, and Kathleen had left to train as a nurse. The foster parents separated, and Betty was left with the prospect of having nowhere to live. It was arranged for her to go to her family in Witherwick. By now her older brothers had left home, but Betty was able to rejoin her younger brothers and to help her stepmother in looking after her two young half-brothers. Betty eventually had six half-brothers, but at that stage only the two eldest had been born. In due course Betty left school and went to work in Hull as a shorthand typist. However, she soon found that she did not like that, and found a residential job helping at the Cottage Hospital in Beverley.

As soon as she was old enough, she was accepted at the County Hospital in York to train as a nurse and went to live there in the Nurses' Home. After she qualified as a State Registered Nurse she stayed in York for a while, and then moved to London to St George's Hospital, then still in its old building at Hyde Park Corner, where she qualified as a midwife and made several lifelong friends. Life as a midwife then involved a lot of cycling to houses at all hours of the day and night to do home deliveries, and although she enjoyed that, quite soon with one of her friends from St George's she emigrated to Canada, where they worked in a hospital in Toronto for about two years. By then Kathleen

had married a medical doctor and was living in Barbados, and Betty decided to go and see them. She stayed with them in Barbados for a year or so, working in the hospital in Bridgetown, and then came back to England and joined the army, where she became an officer in the Queen Alexandra's Nursing Corps. Her first posting was to Mauritius, where she spent the first part of her army time, and after that she was sent to Kenya, then subject to Mau Mau insurgence.

When she left the army Betty qualified as a health visitor and bought a house at Drayton, where she had a large territory in south east Oxfordshire to cover. After a year or two she changed career and started working for the Church of England Children's Society arranging adoptions. For this she moved to London and bought a flat here in Southgate, in Chase Road, and soon joined the congregation here at Christ Church. That was how things were when we met, and we were married fifty-one years ago in the north chapel here. It was a very quiet affair with fifteen people present, on an April day with sunshine and showers. At first we lived in my flat in Bayswater, but quite soon we found a house here in Southgate which we could just about afford, and have lived in it ever since. Betty liked her adoption wok, but it was very arduous, in that she was driving about 27,000 miles a year. After six or seven years she resigned, and spent the rest of her working life as a health visitor here in Enfield. Freed from driving she took an Open University degree in geology, and then started a quite serious study of her family history. To start with, easily affordable home computers were not yet available, and we spent a lot of very pleasant times visiting libraries, places and people in Liverpool, Cheshire, North Wales, and Ireland. Betty had close relatives in Newfoundland, California, Barbados, Kenya, and eventually Australia, and gradually we visited them all, some of them repeatedly. They in their turn visited us, and when they came Betty would organize a large family party, and these events helped her extensive

family to remain in touch.

When she retired, Betty became a Friend of St Paul's Cathedral, and for more than twenty years went there every week to help. After a while she became a guide and showed parties round, and later she assisted in the cathedral library. In addition to that she became a church bell ringer. As a child at Tugby, the church had four bells, and Betty had asked the ringers if she could learn. They, however, had put her off, saying that only men rang bells. It wasn't strictly true, but it was a common attitude at the time. When she found out that here at Christ Church they needed ringers, she decided to have a go. She was already sixty and also, having had a fracture in her upper right arm, was unable to raise her right hand above her head. Because of these things she was uncharacteristically diffident and asked me to go with her to the first practices for moral support.

The result of this was that I too became hooked on ringing, and together we became elderly learners, and have enjoyed the fellowship of the ringing community for more than thirty years.

Betty rang a good number of quarterpeals, and about a dozen peals, the last of these in her eighties. For those who are not ringers, a peal is a piece of continuous ringing which goes on for about three hours, and is quite a test of stamina and concentration. Being good at organizing and fund raising and persuading people to do things, she quite soon became the secretary of our district of Middlesex Association, and she also served a term as President of the Association, when in addition to the usual duties she organized a centenary dinner and dance.

I haven't told you everything about Betty, of course, but I hope I have stirred some memories.

Martin Sutcliffe



Christchurch Association News

The Christchurch Association (CCA) provides a social centre for the parish, and runs the “Top Step Bar” which serves soft and alcoholic drinks upstairs in Church House.

The CCA Top Step bar will once again open early at **6 pm** on the first Friday of each month, with complimentary **cheese and snacks** available through the evening. The first occasion will be **Friday 1st October**, and we will review the early opening policy at the end of the year.

The **Annual General Meeting** of the CCA will be held on **Wednesday 3rd November** at 8:30 pm in the Reception Room (bar). This is an important meeting that is open to all CCA members and anyone else who is interested in the activities of the Association. Please contact Clive if you would like to know more or if you are interested in serving on the committee.

On **Friday 5th November** we will open early at 6 pm and will be offering **Indian Snacks** as a joint celebration of Bonfire Night and Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Light that occurs earlier in the week.

Advance notice that Clive will present a **Wine Tasting Evening** featuring Wines for Christmas on **Saturday 27th November** at 8 pm in the Walker Hall. Tickets priced at £25 per person must be reserved in advance and can be obtained by contacting Clive.

The Top Step Bar is open on a regular basis as follows (except during August):

Sundays from 7:30 to 10:30 pm

Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 to 11 pm

Early opening at **6 pm** on the first Friday of every month

The CCA is a Registered Club with membership open to anyone who worships at Christ Church, lives in the parish or uses the church halls. Membership costs just £2 per year and new members are always welcome. Please contact Clive for more information or if you would like to become a member.

Clive Woodhouse
Chairman, Christchurch Association

Stewardship

As promised last month, I despatched my annual “thank you” letters which I trust were all received OK. In addition this year, I sent a note to all those recipients of *The Spire* who are not in Stewardship in the hope of attracting some more regular donors.

Since doing this, I am pleased to say that there have been no fewer than three new additions to our stewardship scheme, each using our preferred donation method of the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). Also, a donor currently paying by standing order has promised to switch to the PGS. Finally, we have received a couple of one-off donations, too, and I thank all those concerned.

The present option to donate on-line via Virgin Money Giving, will cease at the end of November. We are currently looking into a new provider and this will be advertised in the weekly pew sheet and on our website once the arrangement is in place.

Cash collections in church and other donations all still remain low. However, there is now a fairly steady use of the contactless machine which is pleasing as it is a most efficient way of donating. You will have read many times now my pleas to set-up up regular donations rather than donating only when you come to a service... details of how to do that follow this article as usual.

If you need any further information to help you decide how to join our Stewardship scheme, please let me know. My telephone details are in the Directory at the back of *The Spire*, and my email address is mikestatistics@gmail.com

Mick Meur
Stewardship Recorder

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme now, this can be set-up easily over the telephone. All you needed to do is make one call to their dedicated helpline number 0333 002 1271.

When calling please quote our parish code 230623352

or online using the following link:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/southgate-christ-church-london/>

Or scan the QR code below on your smartphone or tablet



News from the Committees

The several Committees that work together to keep Christ Church Southgate ticking over are now firmly back in the post-holidays' routine of regular work.

The **Parochial Church Council** has met (although still socially distanced in the Lower Walker Hall) to discuss all the various jobs and activities. Fr Chrichton's report informed the committee that with the return of the choir, the gradual progress back to normality in the everyday function of our church continues, and our building was once again able to open its doors to visitors for Open House Weekend this year. One major problem identified at this meeting was the very serious lack of volunteers since the end of lockdown – people are needed for just about **everything**, from serving and reading, to dusting and washing up... you are urged to come forward – even the very tiniest contribution will help keep the show on the road.

Finance & Standing now has its newly expanded membership with two elected members of the PCC – Hilary Meur and Clive Woodhouse – joining its number.

The work of the new **Community & Wellness** committee has begun and includes updating our regular Sunday prayer lists for those in need.

Eco & Creation Care continues to be busy, focusing for now on clearing and developing the church gardens. The results so far are visible to all of us as we arrive at church along the path between the immaculately weeded flower beds. Plans are now being made for our future garden use, and Sandra Anderson and the Vicar derived further inspiration from a visit on behalf of the Committee to the

A Rocha project at the Wolf Fields site in Southall. A summary of this project can be viewed at <https://arocha.org.uk/our-activities/practical-conservation/wolf-fields/>.

Social Responsibility is now in full swing again, having completed a very successful fundraising event for Water Aid. The Charities Stall is open for business at the back of church and the full scope of their projects and activities are reported elsewhere in this magazine by Hilary Meur.

Finally, **Plant and Fabric** continues to be extremely busy: the clock is now mended and back in action, the organ blower is back from the repairers, and the consultant arborist has confirmed that no further work is needed for the time being on the oak tree. The committee is also arranging for a skip in order to clear the basement. The quinquennial inspection has confirmed that no other major work is required on the building beyond the jobs we already know about (repair of the chancel floor and of the exterior boundary walls). The lighting project is now dependent on the successful resolution of the issue with the chancel floor.

Outreach continues as Christ Church engages with its neighbours and the community around us, and Fr Chrichton reported that Walker School will be coming to us once again this year to celebrate Harvest Festival.

You can read elsewhere in the magazine about the Christ Church Association programme for October – the reopening of the bar made possible by the tireless commitment of our **Parish Centre Management** team as they continue to ensure the Reception Room and halls are kept as safe and Covid-free as possible for all users.

Patricia Ashby

The Electoral Roll – An Update

We are now half way to next year's "Electoral Roll Call" – the time of year when we check all the names on our Electoral Roll to make sure the nobody is spelled incorrectly, or maybe changed their address without telling us, or – even worse – that nobody has been missed off even though they have completed an application form to be included.

In April this year, we were in a good place and congratulated ourselves on the fact that even with the pandemic and the long lockdown when church had been closed, our numbers had remained on a pretty even footing. We had no less than 220 names listed on the roll, giving us a robust total to notify to the Diocese. This total even sported a few new names – not all newcomers to Christ Church, but regular attendees who during the pandemic had decided to complete application forms and have their names added to the list. This was great and we were delighted to be able to include them.

There are two things here that are important. First and foremost, attending 'regularly' does not necessarily mean that you attend Christ Church every week of the year – it could be that you are only able to join us on every first Sunday of the month, for example, or on a weekday, or for special occasions... but however infrequent, this still make you a 'regular' member of our congregation.

The second thing is that since church re-opened, I have personally met a number of people that I did not know before. They attend services regularly and may even participate in the service (by reading a lesson, for example), but their names are not on the Electoral Roll. One reason that people sometimes have for not 'joining' is that they are already on the Electoral Roll of another parish. But this does

not necessarily have to be a stumbling block. With the agreement of the incumbent, you can 'belong' to two parishes at the same time. (I myself belonged to two parishes in this way for many, many years – in my case, I had a 'work' parish and a 'home' parish; now retired, I only have my 'home' one.)

Having everyone on the Electoral Roll is actually really important for both you and our church. 'Joining' the Electoral Roll means you have made a commitment to our church; are able to take part in the annual meeting and consider standing for the PCC to have a say in the direction we take as a community. For Christ Church it means we are able to give an accurate report to the Diocese and the wider church about the commitment to Christianity in the parish.

Sadly, this year, in spite of a couple more new additions, our numbers are growing smaller. This is not just through the natural cycle of life and death, but also through people moving away from the parish to more distant locations. But I feel sure we could begin to balance this, if every single person (age 16 or over) who attends Christ Church regularly fills in an application form⁽¹⁾ and has their name added to the list.

If you would like to read more about our Electoral Roll, please visit <https://www.christchurch-southgate.org/home/electoral-roll/> on our website.

I look forward to hearing from anybody who might consider 'joining' – thank you!

Patricia Ashby,
Electoral Roll Officer

(1) You can download an application form from <https://tinyurl.com/CCERform> or speak to myself or a Churchwarden. (My contact details are in the Directory at the back of *The Spire*.)

PARISH DIRECTORY**Parish Office**

*Open on Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m.—1 p.m. and 2.30—5 p.m.
Please phone beforehand if you have any special requests or needs.
N.B. Notices for the Sunday pew sheets should reach the Office no later than
10 a.m. on a Friday. If possible, please e-mail them.*

Mail 1 The Green, London N14 7EG
Phone 8886 0384
Email office@christchurch-southgate.org
Website www.christchurch-southgate.org

Clergy

Vicar The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert
Address 1 The Green, Southgate, London, N14 7EG
Phone 8882 0917
Email frch138@btinternet.com

Assistant Priest The Reverend Hazel Miall
Address 85 Conway Road, Southgate, London, N14 7BD
Phone 07980 740587
Email hazelhmiall@btinternet.com

Lay Readers

Cathy Dallman, 4 Greenacre Walk, Southgate, N14 7BD 8886 5918
Jackie Anderson 8245 0305
Sandra Anderson 07947 027265
Amy Li via the office

Churchwardens

Clare Boulton, 321 Gladbeck Way, Enfield, EN2 7HR 8367 5961
Kate Carroll, katecarroll1@aol.com 07974 437966

PCC

Secretary Caroline Robertson 8886 0384
office@christchurch-southgate.org
Treasurer Clare Boulton (as above)
Stewardship Michael Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET 8360 2362

Music Department

Director of Music Richard Brain 07979 850546
music@christchurch-southgate.org
Organist Kate Macpherson
Associate Organist David Hinit
Treasurer Ian Winton, 7 Foxgrove, N14 7EA 8882 3680

Sacristan Vacancy

Sidesmen Judith Lo 8882 3335

Sub-committee Chairs/contacts

Outreach Fr Chrichton Limbert (as above)

Plant and Fabric Kate Carroll (as above)

Social Responsibility Vacancy

Resources Ronald Lo 8882 3335

Electoral Roll Officer Patricia Ashby 8886 2528

Parish Magazine “The Spire”

Editorial Team Copy to be sent to the Parish Office (see above)

Treasurer Hilary Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET 8360 2362

Flower Arrangers Contact the Parish Office (see above)

Parish Centre/Church Halls

Chairman Philip Miall, 85 Conway Road, N14 7BD 8882 6738

Secretary Clare Boulton (see above)

Lettings christchurchparishcentre@gmail.com

Treasurer Michael Meur (as above)

Christ Church Association Bar

Contact Clive Woodhouse, 41b Osborne Road, N13 5BT 8882 0014

Friday Coffee Morning *Every Friday morning 10.30 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. in Church*

Contact Hilary Meur (as above)

Lunch Fellowship *Usually on 2nd Wednesday in the month at noon in Church*

Contact Cathy Dallman (as above)

Scout Group The Reverend Hazel Miall, *Cubs* 07980 740 587

Stephen Smith, *Group Scout Leader* 8882 0991

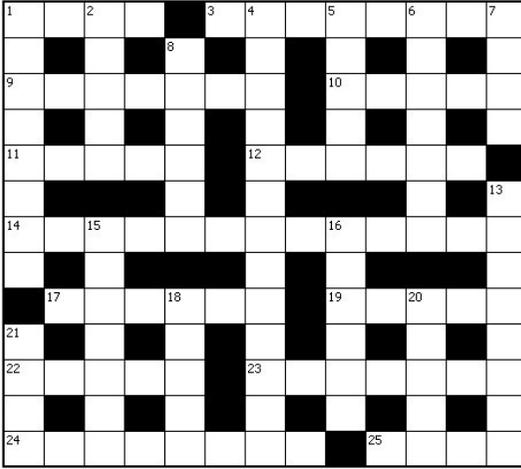
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Young Fogeys *For the active and retired, though you need not be either!*

Contact Jean Thomas, 1 Bramford Court, N14 6DH 8882 8133

OCTOBER CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 'Those who were standing near Paul said, "You — to insult God's high priest?"' (Acts 23:4) (4)
- 3 They were assigned to guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) (8)
- 9 'Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the — of — , the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite' (1 Samuel 1:1) (3,4)
- 10 Surrender (Joshua 24:23) (5)
- 11 Where American livestock can be reared (5)
- 12 Listen (anag.) (6)
- 14 Alternative name for Kiriath Jearim (2 Samuel 6:2) (6,2,5)
- 17 He founded Westminster Abbey, — the Confessor (6)
- 19 Hebrew word for the place of the dead (5)
- 22 Allies of Persia in the fifth century BC (Esther 1:3) (5)
- 23 Where John Wesley was forced to preach a lot (4,3)
- 24 Rebellion against God; abandonment of religious belief (8)
- 25 Note (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 Give an account of (Mark 4:30) (8)
- 2 'I — the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free' (Psalm 119:32) (3,2)
- 4 'He took the ephod, the other — — and the carved image' (Judges 18:20) (9,4)

- 5 'You are a chosen people, a — priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9) (5)
- 6 The meek, the merciful and the mourners are all this (Matthew 5:4-5, 7) (7)
- 7 Musical Instrument Digital Interface (1,1,1,1)
- 8 He was the son of Nun (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
- 13 'Let the little — come to me' (Matthew 19:14) (8)
- 15 'About three thousand were — — their number that day' (Acts 2:41) (5,2)
- 16 In John's vision, the wall of the new Jerusalem was made of this (Revelation 21:18) (6)
- 18 'Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly — a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Philippians 3:20) (5)
- 20 'Glorify the Lord with me: let us — his name together' (Psalm 34:3) (5)
- 21 Young Men's Christian Association (1,1,1,1)

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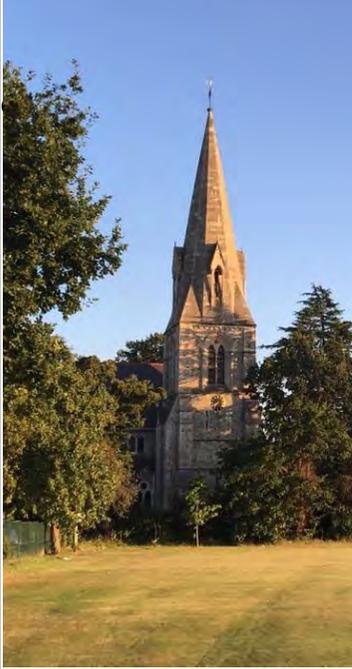
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