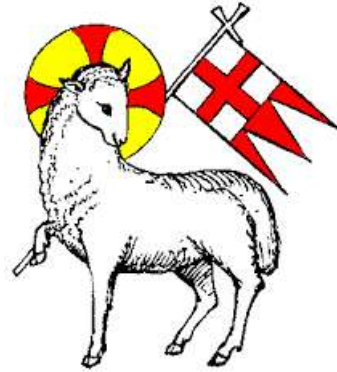




Newsletter



THE LAMB AND FLAG



This week someone new to church was asking me about the symbols on one of our brass crosses. The central one being the 'lamb and flag' a symbol of the Christian forces [2 words which arguably shouldn't be together] in the crusades and incidentally not far behind the Red Lion as Britain's favourite pub sign!

Last week I was chatting to my good friends at St. Luke's in Winton who were hosting an anti racism meeting that evening.

I asked if they were concerned at all, only to find a flag of St. George graffitied on the church door the next day.

Last Saturday thousands marched in London at a rally organised by far right agitators carrying our national flag, this follows a spate of random flagging across the country. If this was 80 years ago, VE day, erecting flags on lampposts would be celebrating hope and the defeat of evil. Make no mistake this movement is the diametric opposite, they have become symbols of hate not unity. Why is the lamb and flag so incongruous? Because the lamb is Jesus who died that everyone might be in relationship with God not just straight white English men. London's parade also saw the misappropriation of the cross the central symbol of our faith, make no mistake this isn't up for debate it is wholly wrong.

We are a people of peace and if we lose that we have nothing. We must not be ashamed of the Gospel and, if that means speaking up, so be it.

Revd. Canon Mike Powis

CHORAL EVENSONG

On Sunday 5th October at 6.00pm at All Saints we will have **Evensong followed by cheese and wine**. This is great opportunity to share in worship led by our choir with a lovely setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Philip Wilby, and a beautiful anthem, The Lord is my shepherd by Howard Goodall. The service will also include some well-known hymns; Father hear the prayer we offer, Firmly I believe and truly and Glory to thee my God this night. Ian will then play Fugue from Sonata no. 5 by Joseph Rheinberger. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity to share in fellowship as we serve cheese and wine. If you have never been before, I encourage you to join us as we praise God in words and music.

SCONES OF PRAISE!

Do you put the jam before the cream, or the cream before the jam? As we all know, the BBC does Songs of Praise with lots of favourite hymns and songs. **Here at All Saints, at 3.00pm on Sunday 16th November**, we will be holding our first ever **Scones of Praise**. Like Songs of Praise, but with the added bonus of a range of homemade scones with jam and cream, served with tea and coffee. Do join us and bring a friend along. Maybe someone who doesn't normally come to our Sunday service. This will be a great opportunity for fellowship, friendship and exercising our vocal cords. And you can decide which comes first, jam or cream.

For more information do speak to John Kidney.



CRAFTY SUNDAY & SmAll SAINTS



We welcomed lots of new families to SmAll Saints after the Summer holidays and have lots of activities planned for them for the coming weeks leading up to Christmas. Again at our September Crafty Sunday we were pleased to have lots join us to enjoy fun and activities when our theme was Harvest Festival. Hopefully you should see some of the work done up in the Church for our Harvest Festival at the beginning of October.

CUBS & SCOUTS



We have returned from the summer holidays, with members moving on from beavers/cubs/scouts. We hope those that have moved up a section continue to enjoy their scouting opportunities and journey.



As we have darker evenings, the guys have been back in the hall getting to know each other and starting on their badge work. The scouts are looking at Wellness and Healthy Eating,

Gary, Alex and leadership team.



FELLOWSHIP CLUB

The Fellowship group were invited by Sheila to a delicious lunch at Dickies to celebrate her 90th birthday which we thoroughly enjoyed.

We have tickets to see The last Downton Abbey film on 8th October and our next lunch will be on Wednesday 15th October venue yet to be decided.

Rose

Remembering our dear friends Marcia and John

Marcia

Marcia and I met when she transferred to All Saints' branch of Mothers' Union, having been a member of St. James' branch until it closed. Marcia was a Mothers' Union member for 53 years and was Treasurer for us for many years.

We were privileged to meet Sharon Harper, the then Worldwide President of Mothers' Union in 2023, at St. Mark's in Highcliffe. Sharon preached at the Service there, and enjoyed meeting so many members during the 'bring-and-share' lunch afterwards. We also met Justin Welby when he was Archbishop of Canterbury at a Festival Service in Winchester Cathedral.

In her younger days she sang with a Bournemouth Choir and later this became the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus and she also played the piano. We shared a love of classical music and went to many concerts at the Lighthouse and Christchurch Priory together with Sheila Jacob with our late friend John Turpin booking the tickets at the Lighthouse which allowed us the benefit of his discount!

When she was in her 40's she attended night school classes studying for and passing, her Accountancy exams whilst working in Bournemouth. As well as being Treasurer for Mothers' Union, she was also Treasurer for a swimming club for disabled people at Stokewood Road swimming baths until Tony, her husband, passed away – he drove her there every Saturday.

At All Saints' she was a Server for many years and was a member of the Guild of Servers of the Sanctuary and also a regular communicant on Wednesday mornings.

Marcia was a very quiet and unassuming lady whose faith and determination helped her overcome some traumatic events in her life and a really good friend.

Angela Jenkins

Revd John Oliver

Many people will have their own memories of Revd John, and I've been asked to share mine, Shalom my friend. I first met John at All Saints talking with Vincent and Rob about trains, of course. Those early friendships cemented my attachment to All Saints in 2016, when I first moved to the area and was looking for a suitable church! This was answered prayer, and following John and Vincent, I too eventually became a volunteer at the Swanage Railway. I would see John in the shop serving visitors at Swanage and latterly at the second hand bookstall at Corfe Castle. His enthusiasm and joy in meeting people shone out, so I have fond memories of many conversations, which always centred around railways and our shared faith in Jesus. We regularly discussed what a privilege it is to serve God's people at All Saints and enjoy a different kind of service which involved keeping to a timetable! He generously shared his love of all things rail, both mainline sized and his own model layout at home, and each encounter was a history lesson for me, being new to the area. All signals are green now John, and thank you for inspiring so many people, including me.

I will cherish every memory and remember your teaching on the empty cross of Jesus each day. Your train might have left the platform, and as one left behind, may I take my turn with the shovel.

Richard Kells

WHAT IS OPEN THE BOOK?

Open the Book is an exciting story-telling project where Bible stories are shared with children in their schools in a way that is fun, interactive and memorable for the pupils. As invited guests in school, story-telling teams use the Open the Book programme to prepare and present a 10 to 15 minute scripted Bible story to a school assembly, involving the children as much as possible. Open the Book began in Bedford in 1999. It became part of the Bible Society in 2013 and is now an international organisation.

Story-telling teams are made up of trained volunteers from local churches who sign up to follow the "Open the Book Code of Practice". Jo Kidney and Gerry Davern belong to a team who meet one morning per week to plan and rehearse a Bible story followed the next day by presenting it at Pokesdown School to Years 3-6 (8 to 11 year olds). Between 4 and 10 children are invited to take part in the story, (eg as disciples, soldiers, angels etc.). They are provided with appropriate costumes and props. There is a welcome and introduction to each story.

How Schools benefit from Open the Book

It gives the school a link with the community;

It provides opportunity to build cross-generational relationships;

It makes an engaging school assembly for pupils of all faiths and none;

It provides a quiet time for reflection;

It is free to the school;

It requires no extra work or planning from school staff.

Safeguarding

Open the Book teams fulfil relevant safeguarding requirements as outlined the OTB Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct.

If you are interested in joining our team please speak to Gerry Davern or Jo Kidney in church

Dates for your Diary

Harvest Festival – Sunday 5th October at 10.30 am with all proceeds once again going to the Food Bank. Bring-and-share lunch after the service.

Remembrance Sunday, 9th November at 10.30 am

Scones of Praise – Sunday 16th November at 3.00 pm (full details contained in Newsletter)

Advent Carol Service – Sunday 30th November at 6.00 pm. A service of carols, readings, reflections and hymns

Toy Service – Sunday 7th December at 10.30 am

Christmas Film Day – Saturday 13th December at All Saints' Church (full details to follow)

Christmas Children-led Service – Sunday 21st December at 10.30 am

9 Lessons & Carols – Sunday 21st December at 6.00 pm

Christmas Midnight Mass – Wednesday 24th December at 11.15 pm

Christmas Day Family Communion – Thursday 25th December at 10.00 am



Parish Office open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am -12.30pm

All Saints Church, Castlemain Avenue, Southbourne BH6 5EH

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Vicar: Rev Canon Mike Powis



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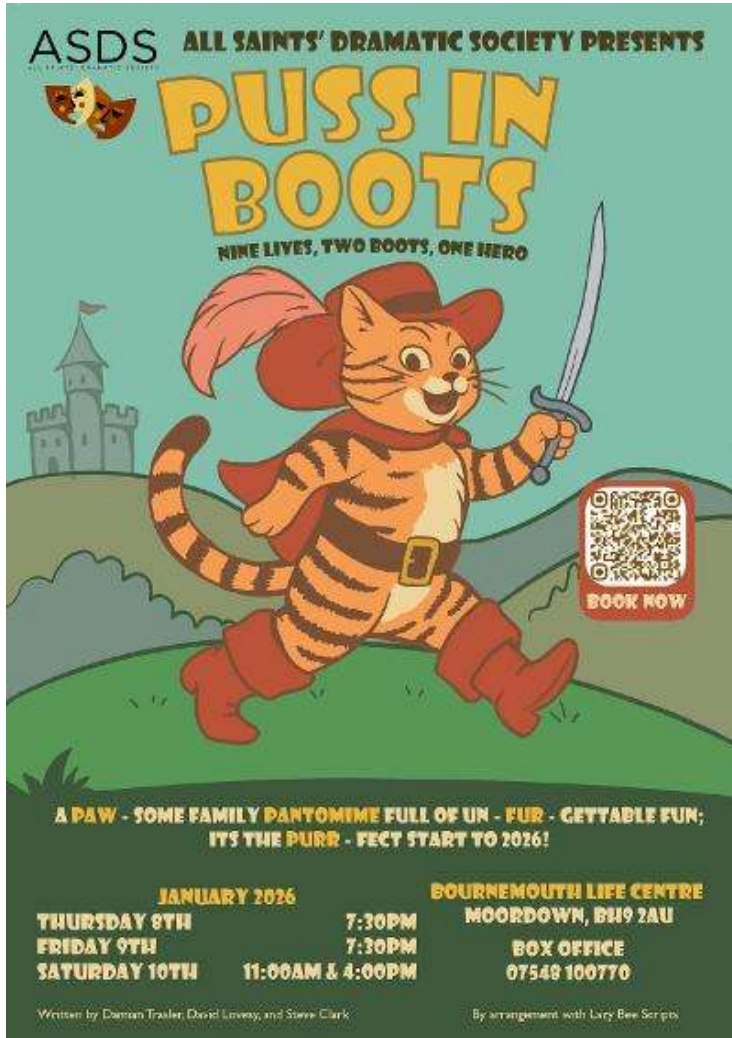
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ALL SAINTS DRAMATIC SOCIETY



September saw the Society celebrating its 75th anniversary with the Friends of ASDS. An evening of sketches, monologues and a fun quiz. The evening started with an introduction by our longest standing members Nina and Douglas Eyre who while they couldn't be with us on the night as they were away in France, kindly recorded a message of support that was played out to begin the evening. As always, with our Friends Evening, complimentary cheese and wine was consumed to make a relaxed and enjoyable evening for the members to take on different roles, be that on-stage, stage management, technical or front of house. We would like to thank all our Friends who came to support us and make the evening a successful event. If you are interested in joining the Friends scheme please check on our website under the 'Friends of ASDS' section for details of how to join and be a part of our future celebrations

With the Friends Evening celebrations now behind us we moved straight into play-reading and auditions for the January panto 'Puss In Boots' which looks to have a fun and energetic cast to make this family panto for all ages a thoroughly enjoyable experience to beat the January blues.

Tickets now on sale from: www.ticketsource.co.uk/asds

Tickets are only £15 for Adults, £12 Concessions and £8 for Children with automatic 10% discounts available for group bookings of 10+ so why not get a group together and prepare to Boo and Hiss the baddie while cheering on Jack in his quest to win the hand of the princess. We are always welcoming of enthusiastic individuals who wish to join in with our upcoming productions to help backstage, volunteer Front of House, or support in various technical roles, there's a place for you! To find out more contact our membership secretary at: asdslifesocial@gmail.com

