



# BISHAM TOGETHER

The Monthly Newsletter  
from All Saints Bisham

November 2025

Hello everyone,

Here we are in November, the clocks have gone back, and the nights are drawing in, and it won't be long now until we are celebrating Christmas!

But I think November invites us to pause and remember. It's a month of reflection – with All Saints' and All Souls' Days, and of course Remembrance Sunday – when we give thanks for lives that have shaped ours and for the quiet threads that hold our communities together.

And as Advent approaches, our attention begins to turn once more to the promise of light emerging from darkness and to the hope that unites us all, whatever our particular path of faith may be.

Carol

Interim Team Vicar



## Church Life

### Worship & Events:

- Every Sunday: 9.30am Holy Communion at All Saints Bisham
- First Sunday of every month: 8am Book of Common Prayer Service
  - next service: 2<sup>nd</sup> November



## **Grave Talk: Reflecting Together on Life, Death, and Beyond**

**Bisham Church 1<sup>st</sup> November 10-12noon**

Talking about death isn't easy, but it can be deeply meaningful. *Grave Talk* offers a gentle, café-style space to share thoughts, ask questions, and talk about life, loss, and what comes next — with no speeches, agendas, or right answers, just honest conversation in a safe, respectful setting.

All are warmly welcome, whether you come with faith, doubt, or simple curiosity. Refreshments will be provided.



## **A Service to Remember Loved Ones**

**Bisham Church 2<sup>nd</sup> November 3pm**

A quiet, reflective service offering space to remember those we love but see no longer. Through music, prayer, and the lighting of candles, we give thanks for their lives and hold one another in hope and comfort.

All are welcome, whether your loss is recent or from many years ago. Refreshments will be provided after the service.



## **Iain Farrington in Concert**

**Bisham Church 7<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm**

We are delighted to welcome world-renowned organist and composer Iain Farrington to Bisham Church for a very special concert. His remarkable performances have been heard at the BBC Proms and around the world, and this is a rare opportunity to enjoy his talent in our own beautiful church.

<https://buytickets.at/bishamchurchfriends/1792225>



## **Remembrance Sunday**

**Bisham Church 9<sup>th</sup> November 10.30am**

An opportunity to come together for a service of reflection, gratitude, and prayer, as we pay tribute to the courage and sacrifice of our service men and women.

## Sundays at All Saints...

### **Seasons of Faith: From Remembrance to Advent**

As the year edges towards its close, our Sunday sermons lead us through a season rich with meaning and change. We begin by completing our study of the Letter of James — a reminder that genuine faith shows itself in the way we live and care for others. On Remembrance Sunday, we pause together to honour those who gave their lives in the cause of peace, reflecting on the courage, sacrifice, and hope that still speak to us today.

Later in the month, we celebrate Christ the King, proclaiming that love and service lie at the heart of God's kingdom. Then, as Advent begins, we turn our hearts towards the light that is coming — a time of waiting and watching for signs of new hope.

Throughout this season, may we find strength in remembering, joy in faith, and anticipation for all that lies ahead.

## ...And in other news this month:

### **Congratulations to Our Newlyweds ❤️**

We were delighted to celebrate two weddings this month! Firstly, Megan and James who are regular attendees at our 8am service, church tidy-uppers and supporters at our church socials, got married at Bisham on 4<sup>th</sup> October.



And then on 18<sup>th</sup> October, we celebrated the wedding of Hayley and Gavin. They too are regular visitors to All Saints, where their little son Rupert is always happy to share the peace with everyone during our communion service! Both couples are very much part of our church family. It was also lovely to welcome Revd John Smith back to officiate for Hayley and Gavin.

Both weddings were joyous occasions, and we pray for both couples as they begin this new chapter in their lives, giving thanks for the blessing their lives bring to our church.



## 👶👶 Double Blessing: Two Baptisms in One Day!



We were delighted to welcome two little ones into the life of Christ on the same day at Bisham Church. In the morning, baby Juno was baptised during our service, which included at the end, several children who had already been baptised returning to relight their baptism candles. It was a lovely moment which reminded us of our own ongoing journeys of faith.



Later in the afternoon, we welcomed little Henry in a small, but very happy second service. Both occasions were filled with family, friends, and the love of our church community, and we pray for both these children and their families as they grow in faith together.



## 🍂 An Autumn Afternoon of Reflection

A few people gathered on 11<sup>th</sup> October, for a quiet afternoon in the church, where we had created a peaceful space to pause, reflect, and give thanks. We celebrated the richness of the autumn season, remembering all that has gone before, and looked ahead with hope to the promise of Advent and Christmas.

Even with just a few present, the time offered a gentle reminder that stillness and reflection can bring deep connection and gratitude.



## From Bass Baritone to Glee Club: A Musical Treat



We were treated to a delightful afternoon of music at Bisham Church, featuring our regular bass baritone, Richard Brooman, performing a charming selection of songs from musicals. As always, Richard impressed with his versatility — from the iconic “If I Were a Rich Man” from *Fiddler on the Roof* to the humorous “I’m a Gnu” — all delivered with his characteristic wit and an unending depth of knowledge about each song’s background.

He was ably accompanied on the piano by Graham Barker, one of our regular organists at Bisham, who also delighted and surprised everyone with a selection of songs performed on his accordion.

Both Richard and Graham were nearly outshone by the performance from the Bisham School Glee Club, all dressed in their sparkly outfits, who performed two songs from *The Lion King* with wonderful energy and enthusiasm.



It was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon, made even more special thanks to Sean and the volunteers from the Bisham Church Friends, who baked delicious cakes and served tea and coffee during the interval.



## Bisham Church Friends

### History & Heritage at Bisham

At the History Coffee Morning on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 37 people gathered to hear another of Sheila's interesting talks, raising £100 in the process. Warm thanks go to Sheila for her talk, and to volunteers from the Friends for providing refreshments.

Part of our ongoing series delving into the fascinating history of Bisham, the Abbey, and the Church, these events are always a joy, welcoming both familiar faces and newcomers alike. A guided tour of the church on 23<sup>rd</sup> October also gave 15 visitors the opportunity to explore more of our remarkable heritage and gain a deeper appreciation for the history we are privileged to share.



## Bisham CofE Academy



It was lovely to celebrate another Harvest Festival with the school at Bisham Church on 4<sup>th</sup> October. The children had prepared a wonderful poem all about Harvest, and we sang some great Harvest songs. The children also donated generously to the Food Bank, and a huge selection of tins, boxes and packets of food were collected during the service.

In addition to the Church Services we hold every half term, I look forward to taking collective worship at Bisham School. This term we have been exploring the theme of thankfulness with the children. The pupils have also been learning a new action song to sing during our time together, helping to bring the theme to life in an engaging way.





## Community Notices

Upcoming Dates:

- **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November** 10-12 noon
  - Grave Talk
- **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** 3pm
  - A Service to Remember a Loved One
- **Wednesday 5th November** 6.30pm
  - Quiz Night
- **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November** 7.30pm
  - Organ Recital with composer and performer Iain Farrington
  - Tickets still available  
<https://buytickets.at/bishamchurchfriends/1792225>
- **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November** 10.30am
  - Remembrance Sunday Service
- **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November** 7pm
  - Silver Jewellery Party

Contact us:

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<b>Mark Garrad (Churchwarden)</b>	<b>07738 029086</b>	<a href="mailto:garrad.mark@gmail.com">garrad.mark@gmail.com</a>
<b>Bisham Church Friends (Sean)</b>	<b>07808 094777</b>	<a href="http://www.bishamchurchfriends.org">www.bishamchurchfriends.org</a>
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## 📸 Community Gallery

A few moments from the life of our church and community this month.....



Baby  
Juno's  
baptism



month.....



Bisham Concert



Harvest Celebration



History Coffee Morning