



Newsletter



Awake O sleeper!

I remember when I was a little lad going on the occasional long journey to see my relatives in London. The car would be something that my grandad had passed to my dad, an Austin A40 or the incredibly modern Austin 1100, and there would be 4 of us, variously fighting, sprawling out or reading on the back seat. Each journey almost certainly took twice as long as the time we spent at the destination. When we finally got home, the game we played was to be so convincingly asleep that dad would carry you into the house.

We have been on an extensive journey, all the way to Southbourne-on-Sea. Now that we've arrived however, the old 'I'm really asleep' trick will not do. True, our

heavenly father will carry us when we are in need but we clearly have to be wide awake as we enter into this new phase of ministry.

What does that look like? The school has the values of Grace, Integrity and Aspiration at its core, and we could do much worse than ascribe to those. In all good relationships there is give and take and, for all of us, change is afoot. Let us meet it graciously and productively so we can really expand the work of building for God's kingdom here in Southbourne.

All the best
Mike

EASTER SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS'

Maundy Thursday – 2nd April at 7.00 pm – Holy Communion

Good Friday – 3rd April – Hot Cross Buns at 11.00 am & Good Friday service at 11.15 am. An hour at the Cross at 2.00 pm

Easter Sunday – 5th April at 10.30 am – Family Communion

SPECIAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

Sunday 12th April at 10.30 am – Service at St. Katharine's Church followed by special meeting of the new Parish of Southbourne-on-Sea and bring-and-share lunch.

Saturday 18th April 10.00 am to 4.00 pm New Parish Vision Day at **St. Katharine's School**. Our vision day will be led by Rev Simon Newham, Acting Archdeacon of Bournemouth. We hope many of you will be involved as we ask God to guide our vision for the new parish. Please bring a packed lunch.

Sunday 19th April at 3.00 pm. Passion Play at St. Nicholas Church followed by tea and biscuits.

CRAFTY SUNDAY & SmAll SAINTS

We continue to grow with new families coming along to SmAll Saints. The toddlers we have are a lovely group, gaining in confidence and making friendships. We have recently had St. Patrick's Day craft, St. David's Day and made Mother's Day cards (or cards for a special someone).

The nursery rhyme time, musical instruments and story time is well enjoyed. The children seem to know when snack time is sitting at the tables waiting!



Although our numbers have been a little low at Crafty Sunday the regular families, and some new, make our little crafty time so special. We've had a Mother's Day (or someone very special) crafty time this month. Some creativity really shining through especially with Albie's card! We've enjoyed a new time of sharing our work,

praying together and dancing along to praise songs on the big screen! Going into church to share what we've done has been so special too.



Guides & Rangers finished their Reflect skill builder by looking at traditions of Guiding and reading some of our archive documents.

With pressure from exams etc this term the girls chose to do some relaxing things together. We had fun making pizza's, making music videos, making posies for church for Mothering Sunday and cards for our Mums. Finishing with a games night before the Easter break.

We are looking forward to the summer term and getting out and about.

Christine & the team



We ended the term with Easter hunts and crafts. All groups managed various badges this term with many special evenings out and about to complete these. Scouts also held a PL (Patrol Leaders) camp which was a great success.

In March the Scouts had the district night activity when they entered 3 teams. All the teams did themselves proud and a great time was had by all.

Some of the Scouts are camping over the Easter holidays so news on that next month! The term has been busy but we are all looking forward to the summer months!

Gary, Alex, and leadership team.



FELLOWSHIP CLUB

We went for the first time to the Bear at Burton and had a very good lunch. We even had a private room off the main restaurant which was just as well as there were ten of us and we were quite noisy!

We are going to see the film "Mothers Pride" at the Regent on Monday 13th April at 2 pm and our next lunch will be on Wednesday 22nd April at 12.30 pm.

Rose

PCC reports for the calendar year 2025

WARDEN'S REPORT

As I began thinking about writing this report, I received the exciting news that the proposed Parish of Southbourne-on-Sea had, at last, been approved and would come into effect from April 1st. The Service on 12th April will be our first opportunity to worship together following the decision, with the special meeting afterwards to elect Wardens and PCC members, then a bring-and-share lunch an ideal time to get to know fellow Parishioners. I hope you all will attend the Vision Day on the 18th April to hear from speakers and give your views and ideas for the future.

I am indebted to both John Bicker and John Kidney for all the work they do to make sure All Saints is 'legal' and our buildings looked after – very time consuming and very grateful. Special thanks to both Tamsin who now has a grasp on the accounts as our Treasurer and to Clare in our office who works so hard to ensure the smooth running of our church and annexe on a day-to-day basis and is always there to help and support us all when needed.

Our PCC has been a really good team and I am pleased that at last, the Lower Hall kitchen is to be updated. It has been talked about for a good number of years and will be a huge improvement for Hall users. My sincere thanks to all of you for the support you have given me over the years I have been a Church Warden, it makes a real difference. It has been a privilege to serve.

Angela Jenkins

PCC SECRETARY'S REPORT

I took over the role of PCC Secretary during the year when Gerry Davern stepped down, having been our PCC Secretary for many years, and we thank her for all the work that she put into this. We have held 7 meetings during the year when all church matters were discussed in detail. After much guidance from the Diocese and discussion with St. Katharine's and St. Nicholas we were pleased to report to our congregation recently that as at 1st April 2026 we would become the Parish of Southbourne-on-Sea. We have also been busy looking at ways to promote both the annexe and church to outside events in order increase income in the future and thank Clare in our office for all the publicity and assistance she has given with this. The Dorset Police Choir recently put on a Concert in our Church which was very well supported so we are looking at ways to promote the use of our Church for similar events in the future.

Sadly, we lost our dear friend Liz Simonis who was an active member of our PCC. She contributed so much to the running of our church and she is deeply missed.

Currently, there are 7 members on our PCC, namely, Mike Powis, Angela Jenkins (Churchwarden), Tamsin Barnes-Warden (Treasurer), Margaret Waters (Secretary), John Bicker (Fabric & Finance), John Kidney (Safeguarding & Children & Families), Janice Miller (Deanery Synod Representative).

Margaret Waters

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

We now have 44 on the electoral roll after the 6 years renewal. We lost two people last year. These numbers are made up of 18 living in the parish and 26 living outside the parish.

SERVERS

We now only have two servers who belong to the Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary which meets monthly at different churches in the Diocese. We have four additional members from the congregation who administer the chalice on a rota, making six in total.

Janice Miller

DEANERY SYNOD

We met twice last year, including a meeting at St. Christopher's Church, where we worked in groups. We were given several questions to discuss and ponder, and then feedback was given on our views.

Janice Miller, Deanery Synod Representative

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

DBS Checks - Everyone who works with children and vulnerable adults, is in a leadership role, or is on the PCC, must have a DBS check. Currently we have fourteen people with up-to-date DBS certificates.

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Training - There are training requirements for different roles. Those in leadership roles have completed training. There is some training that needs updating, but this is on hold and will be addressed with the PCC of the new parish. **Policies and Procedures** - All required policies and documents have been reviewed and approved by the PCC when required throughout the year.

Reviews and Reports - To comply with CofE requirements, the following are in place - safeguarding is now a standing agenda item at every PCC meeting, a safeguarding report is presented at every PCC meeting, and a report is presented at the APCM.

Reviewing the list of church and non-church activities - As required, the PCC has reviewed and approved all activities that take place within the church and halls. For church activities, the following are required and are in place: role descriptions, Insurance cover, and risk assessments.

Action Plan - The Action Plan is generated from the Safeguarding Dashboard. Each time the Dashboard is updated the PCC has received and approved each new version. We are currently 90% compliant with the expectations of the CofE. **Safeguarding Sunday** - was held on Sunday 16th November.

John Kidney, Parish Safeguarding Officer

A REVIEW OF ALL SAINTS BUILDINGS AND FINANCE

We started the year with the challenge of halting the decrease in our finances and planning a future which was sustainable. We are now financially stable and living within our means and so have been able to make some contribution to the Common Mission Fund.

The church buildings have suffered from thefts of more roof lead and a lightning conductor as well as the need for more building maintenance because of old age and extreme weather events putting the structure under greater strain. With climate change and the cost of living, this will continue to be a challenge for Church and Centre.

Energy is still the major ongoing cost. As a result of a thorough review, we have concluded that the system's efficiency can be improved, but to heat our building to a level we would like is financially unsustainable. Modern techniques of solar panels/heat pumps are either too expensive or unsuitable for our buildings, therefore, for the present we must continue with our best housekeeping practices.

The PCC looked objectively at the state of our Centre, it being clear that it was an important part of our engagement with Southbourne. We have decided to upgrade our lower kitchen and change the lighting in the lower hall to a modern LED system so that we demonstrate our confidence and determination to increase our mission to the community.

John Bicker

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

We have welcomed many new families to both our SmAll Saints Groups and Crafty Sunday during the year and are continually working on ideas to improve these even further. I would like to thank our main team of volunteers Sarah, Rachel and Rose for all their help and support with this as, without them, I would not be able to keep these events going. I am also very grateful to both Julia and Kim who are always there to stand in and help should one of us not be available. Also, thank you to John for all his support with our young people ... he is always there to support us. We had two joint Messy Church events during the year, and are looking forward to working together in the new Parish of Southbourne-on Sea.

Margaret Waters



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

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Vicar: Rev Canon Mike Powis



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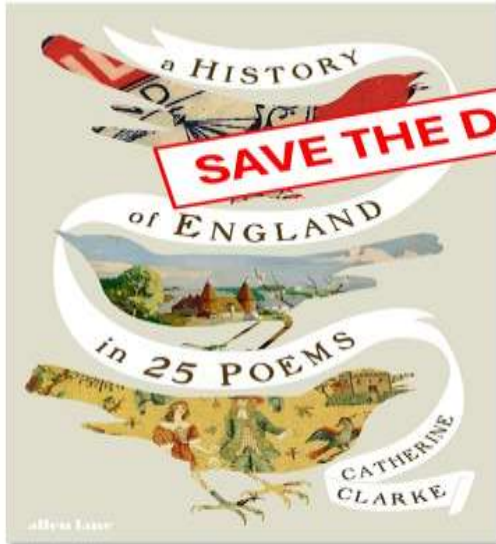
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A History of England in 25 Poems

Saturday 25 April 2026, 7pm
All Saints Church, Southbourne

An evening of words and music,
journeying into 1300 years of
England's history

with local writer **Catherine Clarke**
author of

A History of England in 25 Poems

and musical interludes together with
Rebecca Newton (soprano, piano) and
Ellen Davis (cello)

A *Times* History Book of the Year, a
Financial Times Book of the Year, a
BBC History Extra Book of the Year,
A BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week.

'A marvellous idea, quite brilliantly realised' – Dominic Sandbrook
'A charming mix of history, travel & literature' – Alice Loxton
'I couldn't put it down' – Cerys Matthews

Tickets on sale soon

As we move on to a new chapter in the life of All Saints', a few words from Douglas

MY SPECIAL QUIET PLACE

1. Every now and then
I find myself alone in our lovely church
Special part of life
For the biggest part of my existence.
2. It's sixty-eight years
Since I attended my first Sunday service
Then eleven years old
This massive place, then packed with worshippers
3. Over all those years
All Saints has hosted family christenings
Weddings and funerals
Sharing with us happy and difficult times
4. We met through Youth Club
And since then we've enjoyed so much together
An eclectic mix
Of Christian celebration and reflection.
5. So, when chance arises
To spend time alone in that beautiful place
Mind in overdrive
I start to think of folk I've known here but now passed.
6. Sense of church organ
Accompany thoughts of good times together
The laughter and some tears
Start to flood through my sentimental mind.
7. Then those thoughts slow down
And I offer a simple thank you to All Saints,
Inhaling silence,
For just being there those times we needed you.