

All Saints' Parish Church Renhold
Support Activities
2026



[All Saints' Renhold - A Church Near You](#)

Vicar:- In Vacancy

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S1 Forward to Annual Report of Church Groups and Organisations

As per our Annual Reporting structure in recent years, we are continuing to present data in a two-book format in line with St Albans Diocese recommendations for a Church of our Size

In 2021 the Diocese asked Parishes to change the way they present their Annual Reports with their focus being on the business side of the Church, showing growth, and sustainability both in finance and mission.

Your PCC believe that the life of the church is also important and that the spiritual and fellowship aspects of our community are to be celebrated and shared.

This booklet contains short reviews from each of our church groups and organisations for the year 2025, and as you will read there was much accomplished by them all. It has been a very positive year with new groups being formed and plans are being made to take these further and continue our efforts to become an integral and accessible part of our community. From reading the short reports in this booklet you will see that in typical Renhold style, there is always a way to maintain and develop friendship, fellowship, and community as we journey onwards together.

The core of each organisation is its members, and if reading any of the items in this booklet tempts you to join in and have a go, please do make contact, you are assured of a warm welcome and some enjoyable times together.

Alan Bloomfield

February 2026

S2 Pop-up-Coffee Shop

We started our Pop-up-Coffee Shop in September 2022 just before we started work relaying the main floor of the Church and this is held on the second Saturday of the month from 10:00am until 12:00 noon. A small band of helpers set up and dress the tables on the Friday afternoon so that we are ready to go on the Saturday. We now have a growing band of helpers, who keep the food and drinks flowing on the Saturday morning. Things started off small but has continued to grow to closer to 30 on a normal Saturday. We attract people from our own congregation, the village, the wider parish and beyond, we have a regular group of ramblers who make us their mid ramble pit stop. We have gained a reputation for serving the best sausage and bacon baps in the area. The sausages are produced from the pigs that roam free on the Howbury Estate and made to their own spicy recipe, the bacon is sourced from the last remaining smokehouse in Bedfordshire at Flitton, and of course, there are the cakes and cheese scones.

Since Rev Ian's departure Sarah has taken over as head cook, assisted by Daphne and Victoria in the kitchen with Teresa, Judy, Ingrid and Gosha front of house. All the monies raised go to the church funds.

Alan Bloomfield

February 2026

S3 Renhold Village Magazine

The Magazine Committee said farewell to their much-loved editor, Anne Grant, in January, after 18 years in the role. For some time, there had been real uncertainty as to whether or not the Committee would be able to find a suitable replacement. As many of you know, Anne's role was

so substantial that it has taken two people, Amanda Quince and Janet Goodman to step into her shoes to keep it going!

The first few months have certainly been a steep learning curve. Deadlines are tight and, as many residents know, persuading people to contribute creative content can sometimes be a challenge. Nevertheless, we have been very encouraged by the support we have received across the Parish.

The Magazine Committee is fortunate to comprise of an extraordinary group of volunteers. Judy Wootton has secured all the available advertising space for the year, ensuring that the magazine remains on a firm financial footing. Teresa Trangmar, our Treasurer, carefully monitors all income and expenditure. Ian McIver, assisted by Barbara and Roy Libiszowski, coordinate the delivery team Peter Norris ensures the staplers are in working order and, with Ian, prepares the magazines for the large team of volunteers who gather together in the Chapter House on the last Tuesday of each month to collate them. Tony Ploszajski contributes fascinating photographic challenges featuring wildlife in and around Renhold and Pauline Capell keeps us informed on a wide range of subjects as our ever-curious Roving Reporter.

We are also grateful to our regular contributors, who ensure that the magazine remains current, engaging and varied. These include the Churchwardens, the Chapel Congregation, Parish and Borough Councillors, the Memory Café, the Churchyard Volunteers, the Creative Club, Messy Church, the WI and the Primary School.

This year we have introduced several new features, including Poetry Renhold Please. In the Spotlight interviews and Quick-fire Q&As with local personalities. We have also themed some of our content to link with the Year of Reading and Life-Long Learning. Finding new and varied material can be challenging, but it has also been great fun.

The magazine is very much a community effort. In total, around 70 volunteers are involved when we include contributors, the stapling team and our delivery network. We are immensely grateful to each and every one of them.

Special thanks also go to Larissa and Ben, our two student designers who oversee the layout of the magazine, and to our printers, Jonathan and Eunice Bradford, who ensure that the magazine is ready for distribution each month.

The magazine is published ten times a year and currently has a print run of 1,375 copies. It is delivered free to every household in the Parish. It is also available on the Parish Council website. Our aim is to provide a source of information about local clubs and activities, to keep residents informed about events taking place in and around Renhold and to stimulate them with something new to think about.

Printing costs are met through the following sources:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------|
| Advertisements | £4,496.00 | 72.7% |
| Parish Council | £1,334.49 | 21.6% |
| All Saints and Chapel | £ 350.00 | 5.7% |

We are very proud of the large number of people who contribute to the production of the magazine and we are enormously grateful for the support and encouragement we have received thus far.

Amanda Quince and Janet Goodman

March 2026

S4 Churchyard Clear up Group

The Churchyard Clear Up group meets once a month on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 9:30 am to about 12:30. In November we meet the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday to clear leaves and generally tidy the Churchyard. The work we do varies with the seasons and varies across the Churchyard itself. The activities include:

- Clearing out old overgrown graves, covering in weed suppressant fabric and re stoning them. This is an ongoing project to restore all of the neglected graves in the churchyard to a good condition
- Clearing leaves, cutting back overgrown branches and hedges
- Weeding and planting the gardens at the front of the Church
- Clearing the pathways of weeds, moss etc
- Cutting back brambles from the hedges and Churchyard boundaries both within the Churchyard and on the path outside
- Adding soil to sunken graves in order to level them
- Re seeding areas of the Churchyard where necessary
- Spraying and feeding the box bushes to continually fight the Box Moth Caterpillar
- Strimming and mowing to supplement the contract grass cutting team
- Brushing down graves to remove grass cuttings, moss etc

We enjoy Hot drinks and biscuits at every Saturday Clear Up as well as laughter and banter!

In 2025 we made a lot of progress on adding new stones to many of the graves, also in reseeding and levelling graves in accordance with Churchyard regulations. In December we had our now traditional 'Festive Gathering' during our tidy up with homemade sausage rolls, mince pies etc.

The volunteers in the Churchyard all love the work they do and we look forward to our monthly gatherings and to enjoying the peace and tranquillity that the Churchyard gives us back. New volunteers are always welcome. Please contact me to be added to my email list. My details are in the village directory in the magazine. Everyone is free to do as much or as little as they can. We all have different levels of energy, strength and gardening experience.

Finally THANKYOU to everyone who volunteers and contributes to the care and upkeep of the All Saints' Churchyard, both at the monthly clear ups and in between them, and I know that many in the Parish would wish me to pass on their thanks and appreciation as well.

Teresa Trangmar
Coordinator, Churchyard Clear Up Group

February 2026

S5 Pudding Club

The Renhold Pudding Club was started by Rev. Sarah Burrow and Anne Grant in 2008. It is a club formed to give support to unpaid family carers. The puddings are the treat, but the most important thing is the lovely atmosphere. We try and engender a feeling of confidentiality so that people feel free to discuss, sometimes some quite difficult problems, in an open and sympathetic atmosphere. There is also the opportunity to swap coping strategies or just knowledge of where to go for helpful equipment or advice. I can also call on the resources of the Carers in Bedfordshire charity to get extra help or advice if needed.

Former carers are also welcome. When carers lose a loved one it is a terribly big hole to fill, but when in addition they have been caring for them, it is doubly hard. Fortunately, laughter is often the thing that lifts the spirits and good jokes are always well received!

We meet monthly in Anne's house and occasionally go out for a meal. All carers and former carers are welcome.

Anne Grant

January 2026

S6 Bell Ringers

Our Regular Ringers are:-

- Bridget Stone
- Eddie Keighley
- Tony Francolino
- Anthony LeFanu
- Yvonne Potter (Coordinator)
- Yvonne Whitbread

During 2025, the All Saints' Regular Ringers were able to ring on most Sunday mornings throughout the year. This consistency was made possible by the ongoing commitment of the team, whose experience and reliability continue to be a great strength of the tower. The average age of the regular ringer is approximately 80, and while participation remains steady, attracting and developing younger ringers remains an ongoing challenge.

In addition to regular Sunday ringing, the bells were rung for three funerals and two weddings during the year, supporting important moments in the life of the parish and wider community. A significant highlight of the year was ringing to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day), marking the end of fighting in Europe.

We also continue to enjoy visits from ringers from other towers every couple of months. These occasions are always appreciated and provide valuable opportunities for fellowship and shared experience.

Overall, it has been a busy and productive year for the tower. A much-needed spring clean was completed during the year, which was particularly welcome given the dusty conditions in the tower.

We sincerely thank the regular ringers for their continued commitment and reliability throughout the year.

Yvonne Whitbread

February 2026

S7 Flower Arrangers

The arrangers have had another busy year, although our numbers have now dropped to just three of us.

Although low in numbers we have still managed to decorate the Church on all occasions such as Christmas, Easter, and Remembrance Sunday etc.

We hope to put an appeal out for new members in the Village magazine. Emphasising that no previous experience is required, just a love of flowers.

My thanks go to

- Jill Barrell
- Fleur Keyes

for their support throughout the year.

Yvonne Whitbread

February 2026

S8 Creative Club

The aim of the Creative Club is to get together, enjoy being creative and making things, and to be sociable! We meet on the second Monday of the month in the Chapter House from 7:30pm to 9pm. The December meeting is our Wreath making workshop.

At the start of 2025 several members expressed a wish to explore watercolour painting and so we have had several evenings throughout the year dedicated to watercolours covering:

- Introduction to watercolours and still life
- Landscapes
- Autumn leaves and colours
- Sunset skies (our latest evening in February 2026)

We returned to wreath making in April to make door wreaths for the VE 80 celebrations using red, white and blue fabric, felt, ribbons and buttons.

Additional projects in 2025 included:

- Abstract with Indian Inks
- Iris folding
- Zentangle drawing
- Rafia baskets
- Sashiko embroidery
- Collage including Christmas and Fathers' day cards
- Decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival

We held our traditional Christmas Wreath workshop in December and were proud to take part in the Scarecrow Festival in November, and the Christmas Tree Festival in December.

In 2025 the Creative Club contributed a total of £500 to the Church Funds. This was a combination of payments for use of the Chapter House, the Christmas Wreath Workshop and a donation from the Creative club.

If you would like to join us then my contact details are in the village directory in the magazine. I send out reminder emails each month and also advertise on the Renhold Village Facebook page. We keep our projects simple so we can all enjoy them, regardless of experience.

All materials and tools are provided and can be borrowed if you want to continue a project at home. Refreshments are also provided! The cost is £5 per session, to cover a donation to the Church for the use of the Chapter House and cost of materials. The cost for the December Christmas Wreath Workshop is £25.

Teresa Trangmar
Coordinator, Creative Club

February 2026

S9 Hand Bell Ringers

We have had another enjoyable year of hand bell ringing. Some unfortunately have left the group but we have several new members, largely from outside the church community.

We have extended our range of music and will continue to do so. We include traditional hymns Classical music songs from musical and other Popular Songs. Carols are our staple at Christmas and we had our regular visit to the Polhill Arms to ring carols for them before Christmas. The improvement in our standard of ringing since our first visit was noted!

New members are always welcome and no experience of ringing of reading music is needed.

Caroline Coster

February 2026