



Newsletter



MISCOMMUNICATION

The title of Miss Communication for the 2025/26 season goes jointly to Pauline and Margaret for services to community and publishing.

I'm an enormous fan of Radio 4's always hysterical and oft filthy "I'm Sorry I haven't a Clue" in which one of the rounds is the Uxbridge English Dictionary when contestants offer new definitions of well-known words, 'Seaside' to stop hiding! This must have been in my mind as I penned this article.

This edition will be the last of this publication in this format with the ladies in question deciding to step down after years of faithful service, thank you, thank you, thank you (that's one each and a spare).

Their decision coincides helpfully with the PCC looking at communication in the Parish. Like a good deal of what is happening at present there are lots of details to be ironed out but, the aim is currently to hugely update the weekly news sheet/bulletin in its content, presentation and circulation.

The current magazine contributions will continue as occasional 'Parish Stories' which we will endeavour to publish in a variety of settings. These and other changes will just be part of an intentional strategy to let our community know who we are and what we are about.

It is important to note that this will give us space to re-imagine what we might do in this area and, like other initiatives will be open to review as we all make sense of what it means to be part of Southbourne-on-Sea.

All the best,
Mike

ARCHDEACON'S VISITON AT CHRISTCHURCH PRIORY

John Kidney and Bob Hammond swore the Oath in Christchurch Priory on Thursday 25th June, and legally became our Church Wardens for Southbourne-on-Sea Parish.

They were supported by Jo and Carol (their wives), Dean and Christine Quinton, Gerry and Charlie Davern, John Bicker and myself. Dean and I were eager to make sure that John and Bob had 'signed in' and stood to take the Oath which means we are now relieved of Warden duties!!

The Service was led by Mike Smith, Area Dean 'standing in', as the new Archdeacon for Bournemouth has not yet arrived, and Bishop Rhiannon, who wanted lots of photographs to be taken!

It was lovely to be in a cool space, even though The Priory was pretty full, and a privilege to be there.

Angela Jenkins





Have you ever considered becoming a Member of Mothers Union? It is open to Men, Women and Young Adults who have been baptised and who pay a subscription, which at present is an annual payment of about £36. Funds are used to pay some workers both here and abroad, to set up Workshops teaching work skills, Literacy and Numeracy groups, all to help bring families out of poverty. I am waiting for new leaflets detailing the work undertaken, much of it by Members. I have started the process of changing our Branch from All Saints' to Southbourne-on-Sea as branches are connected to Parishes, with the blessing of the Priest. This year, Mothers' Union is celebrating 150 years, having started as a small group in Old Alresford in Hampshire by Mary Summer, the young wife of the Vicar of Old Alresford. It is now a Charity with over 4 million members in 84 countries of the world, giving Christian care for families around the world.

On 10th June, Gerry and I attended a Thanksgiving Service in St. Paul's Cathedral, London. It was a ticketed event and a packed house!! The service led by Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury, who presided as it was Holy Communion. Our Worldwide President, Kathleen Snow was present, as were many other Diocesan Presidents and Trustees. It was a really special event.

On 9th August there will be a ceremony where flowers will be laid on Mary Summer's grave, in the grounds of Winchester Cathedral at 2.30 pm. At 3.30 pm there will be a Celebration of 150 years in a special Evensong, followed by refreshments. Members please note the date and time, I hope to see you there.

Angela Jenkins



FELLOWSHIP CLUB

We had a good lunch at The Lamb at Winkton in June and our next one will be at The Brew Cafe on Wednesday 15th July at 12.30 pm. The recent film we went to see at The Regent was "The Sheep Detectives" which was a good English comedy.

Rose

Scones of Praise

Back in the autumn last year, when I first suggested the idea of Scones of Praise, I remember being a little apprehensive. The idea worked well back in our last parish, but would it work here in Southbourne? Of course, I didn't need to worry, God is good, God is faithful and has definitely blessed this event.

On Sunday 14th June we held our third Scones of Praise and it has been very popular. We have welcomed folks from across the new parish and neighbouring churches, some bringing friends along. We have also welcomed people from the community who saw our publicity and came along.

The format definitely works. Scones, teas and coffees, fellowship and some very well-known and loved hymns, old and not so old. It has been a joy to sing people's favourite hymns and to find out why they have chosen them. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way whatsoever, and thank you to everyone who came along.

The next Scones of Praise will be on Sunday 13th September 2026 at 3.00pm. We hope you will join us for another time of praise and fellowship. If you would like to choose a hymn, there are slips available in our churches, or you can email me at john.kidney60@googlemail.com



John



CRAFTY SUNDAY & SmAll SAINTS

Although it has been a very difficult Summer Term for both Crafty Sunday and SmAll Saints I am pleased to say that with the help and support from everyone that we have managed to provide a lovely morning each week for our SmAll Saints and monthly meeting for Crafty Sunday. SmAll Saints continues to grow and we are looking forward to developing this and Crafty Sunday further in our new Parish of Southbourne-on-Sea.

It was a real shock to us all to lose our dear friend Rachel recently but she will never be forgotten for all she gave to both these groups. We will certainly miss all her creative art ideas! Myself and Sarah were in constant touch with her during her time in Papworth Hospital and she kindly gave us all the themes for our Summer Term Activities. The scarecrow is the last thing that we made before she passed away and I was due to take this down to her on the morning after our toddler group, she was so looking forward to seeing it but, unfortunately, it was too late. She truly will be sorely missed by everyone at All Saints.

Also, poor Sarah's operation did not quite go to plan and she is now home recovering from a horrible couple of months and hoping to return gradually before the end of term and start treatment again later in the year.

All I can say is thank you to all the team for helping to keep everything running smoothly during this time, Rose, Julia, Kim, Christine and John. A special thanks to Rose who has really taken everything on board and is now very popular with our children, especially for her story and music time, you have been a star!

Margaret Waters



I have been asked to give you all a little update about our scout group so here goes.

Our Beaver section has been busy with fifteen beavers in regular attendance and two leaders. Over the last couple of months they have done a few different things. They have been rock climbing at Butchers Coppice camp site with Sofia running the evening, had a movie night watching Sing 2 and popcorn which was enjoyed by everyone and learning about plants and planting wild flower seeds outside the hall

on the bank. Beavers have also been enjoying the lighter evening by having a nature ramble and litter pick over at Hengistbury Head along with some other badge work which included the collector's badge and learning about money. A big thank you to Jay Branch and Sofia Faulkner for running these evenings.

Cubs have also had a great time with nine of our cubs attending Town Camp which is a weekend under canvas at Butchers Coppice along with sixteen other cub groups. In total over the weekend 220 cubs attended with around one hundred adults staying and running the daily events. We have used the church garden for backwards cooking and been on various walks, one being to educate and learn road safety and the other was from The Hungry Hiker Café to Tuckton Tea Gardens. Big thank you to Sofia, Mark, and Lynn for helping me run these evenings. Mark and I were also running the catering for town camp with four of us cooking all weekend to supply nearly 2300 meals from a tent.

We have a very healthy scout section with 32 scouts on our books supported by eight leaders and they have spent most of the term at Perch Pool (by Tuckton bridge) learning various water activities including canoeing, kayaking, and pulling (some sort of rowing) a big thanks to Alex and the team.

All sections are busy planning for the summer with two camps being planned to accommodate twenty of our youth.

I would like to thank All Saints for their support over the years and especially John Kidney for helping on the Trustee committee.

Regards Gary Faulkner, Group Scout Leader.

Forty-Five Years

On 31st May 1981, in Peterborough Cathedral, I was first licensed as a Reader by Bishop Douglas Feaver.

You may wonder where the title Reader or Lay Reader came from. We need to go back to 1866 to find reference to the introduction of the office of Reader. The title simply reflects the original role of a Reader, which was to read. Readers were licensed to read the lessons and prayers and later to lead Morning and Evening Prayer and to preach.

I was licensed initially to the parish of St Peter and St Paul Abington in Northampton. It was the Rector there, Father Frank, who had encouraged me to offer myself for this ministry and it was he who supported me, giving me opportunities to lead worship and to preach. In 1984 we moved to Little Billing on the outskirts of Northampton and my ministry transferred to the parish of Great and Little Billing, where I worked and worshipped for thirty-five years.

In the 1980s and 1990s, many churches had Communion in the morning and Evening Prayer in the evening. In rural parishes the vicar was often responsible for a number of churches and so Readers were asked to lead many evening services and occasionally morning services too when there was no priest available. This meant that it was quite normal for me to be in a different church each Sunday, usually accompanied by Jo and our girls. We would travel all over the south and west of the diocese and would meet many wonderful people. I have many memories, and some are very funny.

Although the Office of Reader remains, many dioceses now use the title of Licensed Lay Minister (LLM), and so on 9th October 2021, I was licensed as an LLM at Winchester Cathedral by Bishop Debbie.

And so to the present. On 31st May, Trinity Sunday, I marked 45 years and what a joy to do that at the joint service of our new parish with the opportunity to share my faith journey along with Rose, Natalie and Bob. It was a very moving experience and, I hope an encouragement to us all to share our faith stories.

John Kidney

And last but not least, don't forget

Sunday, 5th July - Choral Evensong at 6.00 pm at All Saints' Church with cheese & wine after the service

Summer Fair at St. Nicholas' on Saturday, 11th July from 1.00-4.00 pm.

Lots of stalls and fun for all the family.

(If you are able to help setting up, serving on the stalls or clearing up at the end please contact Angela Jenkins or Colin Baker). Cakes needed for the cake stall please bring these to St. Nicholas' Church from 11am on the day of the Fair.

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

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Vicar: [Revd Canon Mike Powis](#)



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