

Christmas at St Helen's

With the January issue of our magazine being printed before Christmas and the lack of editions during the past two months, this is a belated look back at a joyful December. Our celebrations began with the lighting of the first candle of our Advent wreath.

Our candlelight service on the 14th was conducted by Bob and the readers were Roy and Sue Evans, Mike, Virginia and Alan and Irene. Sue and Virginia joined the choir as did Les from the nave. Our day school pupils and teachers walked to church on the 19th for their Christmas carol service; parents filled the gallery. At our crib service on Christmas Eve the readings were given by the children who also placed all but one of the figures into the crib, Jim having the honour of placing baby Jesus. Soon afterwards people from the village gathered around our outdoor Christmas tree to sing carols. Later, Bob led our Holy Communion service. Roy assisted with the chalice.

Our area dean, Rev Martin Cox, was our guest celebrant for Holy Innocents and after a well-earned break, Bob was back with us for our Epiphany service.

Mothering Sunday

We heralded oncoming spring with our Mothering Sunday service on March 15 and everyone received a bunch of spray carnations.

HOLLINFARE St HELEN April 2026



St Helen Hollinfare

School Lane, Hollins Green WA3 6LJ
sthelenhollinfare@gmail.com
www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15313

Priest in charge

Rev Canon Bob Lewis
Tel 07789 402954



Churchwardens: Alan Domville Tel 0161 775 9360 and Veronia Prowting Tel 01925 763353
Warden Emeritus: Ray Shaw

PCC Members: Rev Canon Bob Lewis (Chair), Alan Domville (Vice Chair), Roy Evans (Secretary), Veronia Prowting (Treasurer), Virginia Baglee, Janet Barcroft, Sheila Breese, Irene Collins, Jim Hall. Ex-officio: Colin Lowndes, Catherine McDonald and Ray Shaw

Day School: Headteacher Catherine McDonald
Editor: Alan Domville

Conexus
T u i t i o n

Sharon Cawley

Principal Director

tel: 07970 145 153

email: sharon@conexustuition.co.uk

www.conexustuition.co.uk

Sharon wishes everyone a happy Easter

50 years ago in February

March and April

Nineteen seventy six was a leap year and so we had five Sunday services during February. The average number of communicants was 30.

Neil Trownson took over as leader of HYPO, the Hollinfare Young Peoples' Organisation, that met on most days of the week in Church House. He had succeeded Derek Taylor.

Five new teachers took up their duties in our Sunday School. Stephen Shaw became responsible for the confirmation class with assistance from John Shaw and our vicar, Rev Tony Carble. Diane Pownall was joined by her sister Susan.

The 1975 post-confirmation class was concluded and three of the girls who had been confirmed, Carol Blay, Susan Shawcross and Carol Austin, were appointed to share the teaching of the seven to eight-year-old children.

At one of our morning services Joanne Sharples and Claudia Brindley took the bread and wine to the altar.

Our April flowers were provided by Mrs Marion Jackson and Mr and Mrs Jarvis.

The vestry and annual meetings were held in April and Ray Shaw and Alan Whitworth were re-elected as wardens.

Tony's new PCC comprised George Wright, Albert Haughton, Ian Webster, Stephen Shaw, Peter Cawley, Stan Head, M Johnson, Anne Corble, Mynah Smith, Grace Hindley, Gertrude Mosedale, Liz Brotherton, Elizabeth Gratrix and Alan Domville.

Our village carnival is in doubt

There is a doubt that our village carnival, successfully revived in recent years, may not be held this year.

Too much work has fallen on the few who have worked so hard to make it so enjoyable—and bureaucracy also presents difficult challenges for the organisers.

If you can help, please contact Anne McArthur on 07891 838085.

In the picture below, taken in June 50 years ago, the new carnival rose queen, Diane Nelson (right), and her lady in waiting, Jayne Louise Grindley, and the royal train bearers make their way to the dais on the recreation ground for the crowning ceremony.



A special thankyou

Easter Day, the most important day in our Christian calendar, occurs on the first Sunday in April this year. Having spent many weeks in hospital before and after my heart operation I am now in recovery and able to bring you this issue of our parish magazine. I was unable to do so in February and March. My apologies. It will be good to back in church on this special day, God willing.

May I express my "heartfelt" thanks to all who wished me well with cards, letters, unexpected gifts and phone calls during my absence. That I have been in your prayers and thoughts during this difficult time is much appreciated. I have missed you all - and worshipping with you.

Immediately ahead of the procedure, which I was told would be needed in 1992 and which was delayed for many months when it became due, I was warned of the high risks involved but if I did not agree to it I would have just a few months left to live.

However I was comforted by the words and prayers of Rev Andrew, the chaplain at Wythenshawe Hospital, on three occasions and also by his deputy. Bob was also praying for me and was my first visitor on my return home. To Bob, Veronia, Janet, Roy, Sheila, Jim, Virginia and Irene C who have carried out our various duties may Irene and I express our special thanks.

Diary dates for April

- 2 Maundy Thursday service. 11.30 and then lunch; School Easter service 9.15
- 3 Good Friday service: Stations of the Cross 2.30
- 5 Easter Day Holy Communion 9.30
- 12 Holy Communion 9.30
- 19 Shared Holy Communion at All Saints 10.30
- 26 Holy Communion 9.30



Readers

- 5 ROY: Acts 10 34-43, John 20 1-18
- 12 MIKE: Acts 2 14a, 22-32, John 20 19-end
- 19 SHARED (BECKY): Acts 2 14a, 36-41, Luke 24 13-35
- 26 MIKE: Acts 2 42-end, John 10 1-10

Cleaning rota

- 4 ALL for Easter
- 12/19/26 VACANT

Coffee morning

April 25 10.0

Chill and Chat

Tuesdays 1.30

Annual meeting

TBA

Cheese and wine

April 17



Prayers

- 5 ROY
- 12 ROY
- 19 BOB
- 26 ROY



Sarah: our new Archbishop of Canterbury



The Right Rev Sarah Mullally was enthroned as our 106th Archbishop of Canterbury on March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation of our Blessed Virgin Mary. Her installation service was truly inspirational.

Sarah is the first woman to be appointed to the role in 1,400 years.

Ahead of the service she and her husband Eammon walked from London to Canterbury. She had served as the Bishop of London since 2018 and before her ordination in 2001 was England's chief nursing officer, reflecting a blend of healthcare leadership and ecclesiastical service.

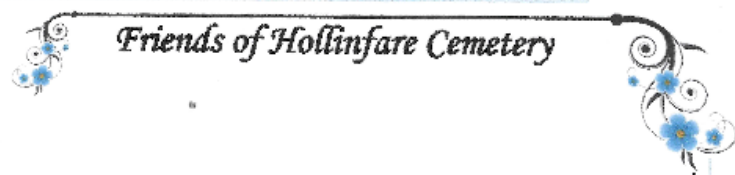


96 Glazebrook Lane

Open

Tuesday to Friday 8.0 to 4.0
Saturday and Sunday 9.0 to 4.0





A BIG THANK YOU

The Friends of Hollinfare Cemetery wish to express our sincere appreciation to the kind gentleman who has set up a monthly standing order of £5 in support of the Friends group.

His kind donation is being used to help us continue to improve the look and feel of the Cemetery.

The Friends Group has been going since 2010 and thanks to our hard working volunteers we have made a huge difference in the cemetery. However, despite our best fundraising efforts, we are in need of further funds to continue to maintain and improve the Cemetery.

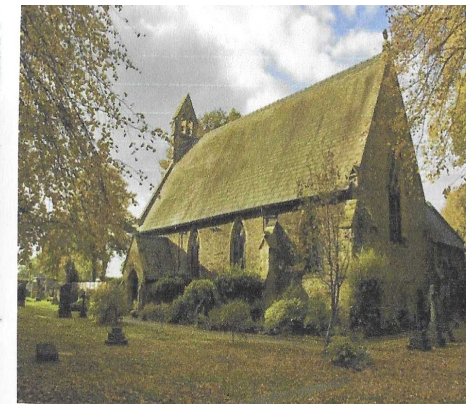
If you would like to support the work of the group by making a one-off donation, or by setting up a standing order, here are our bank details:

Account Name: **The Friends of Hollinfare Cemetery**

Account No: **30343560**

Sort Code: **77-19-10**

Any donation however small is gratefully received - Thank You



Together again

We shall be joining our friends at All Saints Glazebury for another of our joint services on April 19 with the usual later start (for us) at 10.30.

We were last together in February for the celebration of Candlemas here at St Helen's. There will be further shared services on June 14 (Trinity 2) here at St Helen's and at All Saints on September 13 (Trinity 15) and on November 1 which, of course, is the feast of All Saints.

One of our former vicars once wrote in our parish magazine "the possibility of sharing a vicar with Glazebury is unlikely given that it is much too far away and there are no social or historic connections."

It is now more than 30 years since we came together and Bob's initiative in holding shared services has brought us closer than ever. Long may our fellowship and friendship continue!

Social events

Our Social Committee organised another of their popular games evenings in February and together with the proceeds from the coffee morning the following day were able to contribute £200 to our church funds.

Our annual Gift Day held on Christmas Eve realised £1,750.

The exhibition of our church archives on March 6 (pictured opposite) was also a huge success.

More than 100-plus villagers visited the Community Hall, many of whom expressed the hope that we can do it all again next year.

Proceeds were £419.

Canisters for donations in Lent have been distributed and will be opened at Easter.

Thanks to all who support these fund-raisers.

Jim will be holding another of his always enjoyable cheese and wine events on April 17.



P. J. LUNDY

Independent Funeral Directors

A truly independent privately owned and run concern, offering a caring and dignified service at all times.

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST

TEL: 01925 861881

FOR 24 HOUR PERSONAL SERVICE

10 Barley Road, Thelwall, Warrington, WA4 2EZ



VILLAGE GREEN BARBERS

Open Monday and Tuesday 9 to 5.30
Thursday 9 to 7.0 Friday 9 to 5.30
Saturday 8.30 to noon.

Jayne wishes all her customers
a happy Easter

