### **Old Malden News**



The Parish Magazine of St John the Baptist, Malden

**July 2023** 50p

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### **Old Malden News**

### The Parish Magazine of St John the Baptist Parish Church Malden

Church Road, Worcester Park KT4 7RY

Please send any articles or other material to:

St John the Baptist Parish Office

020 8330 2817

administrator@stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk

Advertising and Distribution:

Janet Flemming 020 8640 9377

Janet.flemming 15@gmail.com

Copy date for the magazine is the 15th of the month and please only send submissions in Microsoft Word.

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# St John the Baptist Parish Church, Malden **Directory**

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Asst Priest		020 8337 1572
Reader & Choir Director	Mrs Marilyn Burkett m.c.burkett@btinternet.com	020 8337 6017
Pastoral Asst	Mr Anthony Pullen tony@pullen.me.uk	020 8949 6784
Organist	Mr Barry Eaton	020 8949 1708
Church Wardens	Mrs Lynn Sanger Mr Mike Broome	020 8715 2066 020 8337 1572
PCC Secretary PCC Treasurer Parish Administrato	Mrs Sally Pusey Mr Alastair Harris rMrs Sally Pusey	020 8330 2817 020 8241 1087 020 8330 2817
Safeguarding Officers	Mrs Sally Pusey Ms Marie McGuire	020 8330 2817 07535 878107
Church Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Steve Clarke	020 8337 2392
Hall Bookings	Mrs Pat Sutton	020 8942 8321
Parish Website: Parish Office:	www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk administrator@stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk	

To receive the Parish Mailing please scan the QR code with your smart phone camera



### **Services for July**



#### St John's is OPEN

St John's is open for worship so please see the Parish Mailing for details Live Streaming of services will continue so you will be able to see services live via our YouTube Channel.

Sunday 8am - Said Eucharist

Sunday 9.45am - Sung Eucharist

### Wednesday 11am — Said Eucharist

The midday Eucharist on Wednesdays has been moved to 11am to cater for the Mothers' Union which on the 1st Wednesday of the month will have a coffee morning at 10am followed by the Eucharist at 11am.

Please make sure you are signed up to our mailing list to get up to date information regarding the services.

http://eepurl.com/gNz4Tf or scan the QR Code

### Vicar's Letter

We are about to celebrate our patronal festival as I write this, commemorating the birth of our very own John the Baptist and marking another highlight in our parish year. Memories quite naturally go back to all the previous summer fairs we've held and the service in Church. It is a time to pause and take stock of where we are, where we've come from, and where we hope we are going as a community of faith. Saturday will be another milestone as we return to normality after the hard times of the pandemic. We have the opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones at the fair as we remind our community that St. John's is still here and alive and kicking. It promises to be an enjoyable day for all thanks to months of planning by the fundraising team and the hard work of a legion of volunteers. So here's a big "Thank you!" from me ahead of the day, grateful that we have this opportunity to shine in the community and raise awareness that we are here for others.

Personally, I am especially grateful for everyone who has taken part in this year's stewardship scheme. The Red Envelope appeal is on track to be a success with 14 brand new donors joining our stewardship scheme to support the vital work and witness we share at St. John's. Responses from everyone else already taking part have been very heartening and it looks as if we will be able to minimise our dipping into our few remaining reserves to meet our financial commitments this year. I know Richard Burkett and Alastair Harris, our Parish Treasurer, are more than happy to answer any questions you may have about the Parish Giving Scheme and our finances more generally. We aim for total transparency so that everyone may give of their own financial resources with confidence that we are using your money wisely and effectively to deliver our worship, outreach, and witness to meet the needs around us and within our congregations. If we managed to pick up 6 more new donors, we will have reached the goal we set earlier this year as we are keen to share the load across our membership as we weather these uncertain times. As I have said before, the Finance team have my full confidence and I am confident that together we will reach our goal and put St. John's on a much more secure financial footing. We may even see the day when the Fundraising team's hard work goes towards something special and not just to pay our bills. Here's hoping! Congratulations to John Eggitt for winning the hamper from Betty's as part of our Red Envelope appeal!

More importantly than money is the fact that we have turned another corner at Church. Sunday mornings' main service is getting interesting with a more prominent role for our children and young people in the service. John Eggitt and

Richard Burkett have been training young servers for the all-age as well as Sundays more generally. If you or a young person in your family would like to join us, please speak to Richard. Looking ahead, Margaret Barrington and the Children's Ministry have also offered to do the sermon input for July's all-age service on the  $16^{\rm th}$ .

PCC now has two new members, Fiona Baguley and Stuart Goodden, bringing us back to a full complement of members. As we look towards the Restoration Project and a number of smaller projects around Church, we will be asking for expertise within our congregations to assist PCC from time to time. This will enable us to do more by drawing on the talents within our membership and not just relying on PCC members. Our first such project is to sort out how best to improve our live-streaming capabilities with the right technology and resources available.

At Malden Parochial Primary School, we marked the Leaver's service for our Year Six as they look forward to the end of term and new secondary school places in September. In addition, Mrs. Pavlis is taking up a new post after 12 years as Head Teacher here. In my time I have seen how hard she worked to keep our church school open and functioning at the highest level possible all through the pandemic and lockdowns. Her dedication has ensured stability and enabled the school to achieve a "Good" result with the Ofsted inspection earlier this year. We are blessed to have such a good school with happy children eager to learn and grow, and it is St. John's privilege to support children and staff reach their potential. I am also pleased to welcome Lucy McMullan as MPS' new Head Teacher as she takes up her new role in September.

As we look forward, let's take time to appreciate these warm, sunny days. The summer proves to be a time of celebration and enjoyment for all of us. Let us make the most of what the season offers.

With Every Blessing

Míchael

### A Jordanian Journey - Part 4 - Lawrence of Arabia

After the two full-on days exploring Petra, a more relaxed start for Day 8 of this tour and back to the coach. Today sees us travelling to the final destination of Agaba on the Red Sea, Jordan's only port.

A short journey brought us to Little Petra, which as its name implies, is a miniature version of its big neighbour. An hour's exploration was enough to cover it - more tombs, one of which contained frescoes of Cupid. Like Petra it is set in a small gorge. Leaving this site there was a brief photo stop to take in the panorama of the modern city of Petra. Then on through the desert to Wadi Rum. Here there was a chance to view and climb aboard the train used by Lawrence of Arabia in 1916/17. We then met up with the 4x4 jeeps to take us on a two-and-a-half-hour safari visiting many famous sights, e.g. the settings for the films "The Martians" and "Lawrence of Arabia". The latter brought us face to face with the "Seven Pillars of Wisdom", one of many amazing monolyths rising sheer from the desert floor. Stunning scenery at every turn. There was the opportunity at one point to walk up to the top of a sand dune for a better view. This proved every bit as tiring as the steps at Petra. The final stop was to watch the sunset and revel in the rich colours of the rocks. Thence to another Bedouin camp for an excellent meal. Like the previous one a few days earlier this consisted of slow-cooked lamb and chicken with rice and vegetables, cooked in a large pot buried in the sand, accompanied by masses of salad. Needless to say it was delicious, especially the meat. A final drive of just over an hour brought us to Agaba and our hotel for the final two nights.

Another adventure started our final day - a trip on the "Yellow submarine". This is a strange craft. It is like a normal boat until one goes

downstairs into a long narrow cabin with glass sides. This is just below the surface of the sea and gives excellent viewing of the coral reefs and fish. The reefs took many forms and some were brightly-coloured. At times we passed through huge shoals of fish. Sadly there was also plenty of evidence of plastic pollution. After this the rest of the day was spent exploring the souks and coastal area of Aqaba. The final act of the holiday was a sunset cruise. As we returned to shore, overhead was a pencil-thin crescent moon with Venus nearby, a lovely epilogue to a memorable week. The entire trip was enhanced by our excellent guide, Abed.

An early call at 5.30am the next day prepared us for the return home. In the event the call was probably unnecessary as the same job was done by the local muezzin about ten minutes later. Departure for the airport was at 7.00am for the short flight back to Amman and then the transfer for the main flight to Heathrow.

Jordan was a memorable experience and proof of how people from different backgrounds and religions can live together in harmony.

Barry Eaton.

### A Brief History of our Garden Roses

Roses have been used as a garden plant for at least 3,000 years, when they were used in Mesopotamia. They used wild roses such as the French Rose which, despite its name, comes from the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East, and the Damascus Rose. In Britain we have our own roses - the Dog Rose and the Hairy Dog Rose, which no doubt would have been used here. All these roses would have flowered once in May/June and then produced their hips. They are often called specie roses.

This continued for many more centuries, until the introduction of the China Rose which, as you would expect, came from China, and this rose had repeat flowering which meant it could produce flowers throughout the summer. The crossing the China Rose with other wild roses led to the development of the roses we are familiar with today.

For much of the 20th Century the rose breeders concentrated on developing the flower, colour, beauty and size, and this was to create flowers which were shown at shows, however this breeding programme was at the cost of the rose scents. Recently, scents have become of much more importance and, to create a new generation of roses, the rose breeders will draw on genes of the old roses and the specie roses to create modern scented roses.

One rose I'm particularly fond of is "Gertrude Jekyll". This rose was developed in 2012 and it was named after a famous garden designer of the early 20th Century. There are lots of lovely varieties and they can be seen in lots of gardens including Kew Gardens, Wisley and the National Rose Garden.

Keith Marshall

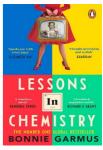






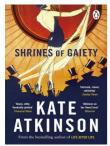
# St John's Reading Group July 2023

At our June meeting we discussed the top seller **Lessons in Chemistry** by Bonnie Garmus. It has been described as 'smart, funny, joyous and powerful' and is 'the story of an unconventional female scientist with a quiet game-plan to change the world'. Set in 1960s America, Elizabeth Zott is beset with problems: this novel sets out almost as many as you could come up with: misogyny, feminism, family, rape, sexism, homophobia. suicide. parental abuse. paedophilia.



general abuse, forced pregnancy – and self-worth. When her attempts at a scientific career fail, Elizabeth becomes the reluctant star of a TV cook show 'Supper at Six'. Disenchanted with the way her life is going, Elizabeth shows how it is possible to challenge the status quo.

This novel was a popular read with most of the group with an average of  $7\frac{1}{2}10$  – for me, just 2/10 and that was for the cover!



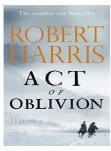
For July we have selected Kate Atkinson's new novel 'Shrines of Gaiety' – set in 1920s London. The fly leaf describes it as follows 'in the clubs of Soho, peers of the realm rub shoulders with starlets, foreign dignitaries with gangsters, and girls sell dances for a shilling a time'. Myabe a departure from 'Started Early, Took my Dog' or 'Behind the scenes at the Museum' – but reviews are favourable. We shall see.

There are certainly lots of characters and my book has a map of London showing Nellie Coker's nightclubs!

For August our choice is The Forgotten Bookshop in Paris by Daisy Wood.

Set in wartime Paris in 1940, Jacques and his wife are forced into hiding. All he holds dear is disappearing before his eyes but he still has his beloved bookshop, La Page Cachée One night a young woman and her child knock on the door and beg for refuge. Risks have to be taken but life is so precious. I am looking forward to reading this novel..





If you are a fan of Robert Harris (Conclave, Munich) then you will be pleased to learn that his latest novel is now out in paperback. Set in 1660, at the time of the Resoration of the Monarchy, it follows the escape of two of Oliver Cromwell's soldiers, regicides, and their escape to America to avoid execution. This novel has great reviews

and the author's research takes one back to those uncertain times. Maybe a future Reading Group choice? One of my summer reads.

Our next Reading Group meeting will be on **WEDNESDAY 5**<sup>th</sup> **July** at 8.00pm in the Church Coffee Lounge. Remember – it is never too hot to read!



St John's Knitting & Crochet Group will be meeting on the last Thursday afternoon of the month (29<sup>th</sup> June) in the Church Coffee Lounge. Beginners

welcome - lots of help available.

Bring your knitting or crochet and enjoy a cup of tea (or two) with cake and biscuits.

Marílyn



# Malden Parochial Church of England Primary School

Chair of Governors: Mrs Patricia Brown

I begin with a huge Thank You to Mrs Pavlis who after 12 years at Malden Parochial is moving on to new ventures at the end of the academic year.

Mrs Pavlis joined the school at a time of some instability and throughout the years has established a school dedicated to providing a safe, secure, and happy learning environment where our children have flourished and succeeded.

There have been many challenges set before her in her development of the school to its current state, not forgetting the more recent challenges of the Covid pandemic and financial difficulties.

Mrs Pavlis successfully guided the school through the long-awaited Ofsted Inspection, which provided evidence of the achievements, under the new criteria, where Mrs Pavlis, the Senior Leadership Team and Staff have worked tirelessly to provide the very successful school that we are all happy to be a part of.

We wish her every success in her new venture.

I am also pleased to convey to you that after a robust selection and vetting process that the Governing Body are now able to confirm that we have successfully recruited Mrs Lucy McMullen as the Headteacher of Malden Parochial C of E Primary School from September 2023.

We are all aware that we are entering a stage of change but are confident that we, the Governors, Staff, and Parents and Carers, will move forward together with Mrs McMullen to build upon the great foundation of the school that we currently have.

Trish Brown 14

# Fitness, Fun and Friendship – the health benefits of bowls - Try it for free!

Whatever your age exercise of any form is vital to maintain a healthy body and mind. And if you can combine exercise with a fun activity it certainly makes it more appealing.

According to Physiology lecturer Lee Bell, there are numerous benefits from playing bowls. Unlike many other sports bowls provides low impact, gentle exercise using a wide range of muscle groups and joints. This becomes especially important in older age groups as without sufficient exercise muscle loss and stiffening joints can result. Regular playing of bowls can offset muscle loss so reducing the risks of frailty and weakness that may otherwise develop. Youngsters can also benefit by improving hand/eye coordination and flexibility.

Light exercise - such as walking or playing bowls - improves vascular health so reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease — and is recommended for people of all ages even if it is for just an hour a week. A typical bowls session is 2 hours or longer - depending on the game — so you're on your feet for a reasonable time. This improves your mobility and co-ordination using muscle groups in both arms and legs. Joints in arms and legs also benefit from gentle exercise so helping with overall flexibility and stability.

Apart from these physical benefits bowls can also impact favourably on mental health. The challenge of competing with your fellow bowlers and the concentration needed throughout the game certainly exercises the brain. All of this mental exercise helps maintain brain health.

Finally there are the social benefits of playing with like minded people in a friendly environment. Not only is it fun but you make new friends; what is more, the socialising that goes on over a cup of tea or a drink at the bar in any team sport undoubtedly relaxes the mind and adds to the fun and enjoyment.

Anyone of any age wanting to try the game can contact the only all weather indoor bowls club in the borough of Kingston at King George Field Indoor Bowls Club in Jubilee Way in Chessington — telephone 0208 397 7025 or e-mail - kgfibc1971@outlook.com — to book your **free** introductory session with our coaches — just come along with flat soled shoes. For more information go to www.kgfindoorbowlsclub.co.uk

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### **Regular Giving by Direct Debit**

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a secure and simple way of giving to St John's on a regular monthly basis (or quarterly or annually if you prefer). It works by making a Direct Debit from your bank account on the 1st of the month, which is credited to our parish bank account by the 10th of the month. If eligible, you can opt to add Gift Aid and PGS claims this on our behalf, passing it back to St John's which benefits our cash flow.

### **Optional Annual Increases**

If you opt to increase your gift annually, PGS will write to you and advise you of the new amount. If this is acceptable you don't need to do anything, but you can choose to add more or to decrease the amount if you wish. If the majority of our planned givers were to opt for this, it would have a huge impact on our finances. Like many churches, one of the problems we face is that of 'static giving', often through inertia rather than intention.

### **One-Off Giving**

It is also possible to make a one-off gift online and add Gift Aid if you are eligible. Instead of setting up a new Direct Debit, you use a debit or credit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay. Scan the QR code to get started.

## Three ways you can set up a regular gift with PGS

- The simplest way is online. Visit our PGS website page shorturl.at/bopP5
  or scan the QR code above.
- By phone: 0333 002 1271, Monday to Friday 9.00am-5.00pm
- By post using the application form at the back of church

You will need your bank details to set up the Direct Debit and, for phone or postal applications, St John's unique parish code **370637139**.

Thank you for considering this option in your support of St John's



# CAN YOU HELP US DEVELOP OUR NURSERY STRATEGY?

We're conducting a review of our nursery offering and are seeking views from local parents of pre-school (or recently pre-school) aged children (0-5 years).

Over recent years, we've struggled to generate enough demand to fill our nursery. Can you help us to understand why?

Please scan the QR code or follow the link below to complete our 5 minute survey. If you would prefer to speak to one of our governors directly, please email Jillian - <a href="mailto:jberry51.314@lgflmail.org">jberry51.314@lgflmail.org</a>



Weblink to survey

https://forms.gle/i566iyBNM1rA1N7MA

#### My dear friend Brooke,

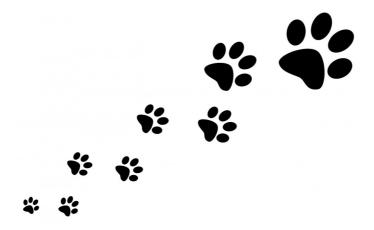
How are you managing with the heat? Our coats are not designed very well, no zipper to let in some air. I just curl up, in a corner, and hope it will go away. I am sending a small gift, which I hope you will enjoy- as times goes so quickly. Your companion will explain it to you. Over Christmas ( not too far away) we sing carols. You will have time to practice with your friends. This book has been written for us, so if you start now you'll be perfect when the time comes.

I told you that I love to sing but the neighbours complain (dogs) they do not enjoy my dulcet tones! I'm sure your companion will know the tunes and will sing along with you and maybe the foxes will join in. I've had fun today by helping making the bed! I get in and hide and bite her toes and it makes her giggle.

Have fun,

Wishing you some cooler weather

Love Melinda





There are boxes on the church porch bench for your donations to the Foodbank.

Foodbanks are now vital to so many people and our support is really important.

Please donate if you are able.

500g bags of rice
pot noodles
Instant mash ( packets are better)
Tinned potatoes
Tinned spaghetti
Tinned meat ( including chicken, ham , beef)
Small bottles of squash
small pasta sauce
Tinned vegetables
Small packets of biscuits

Extras including : ketchup, mayo, pickle, small bottles of oil, mayonnaise, pickled beetroot.

Shampoo shower gel

Toilet rolls



Thank you to everyone who supported the Bereavement Cafe through the Co-op community Charity scheme! You raised over £1,100! The next meeting will be in the coffee lounge at St. John's on Tuesday 18th July 2:00- 3:30pm. We have been very fortunate to be trained and supported by Princess Alice Hospice, who will continue to work with us to provide this needed service for our community.



With things opening up again please help raise much-needed donations for St John's Old Malden - Repairs Fund when you plan ahead and arrange things to do! From booking staycations and getaways to tickets for concerts or other fun activities, remember to use #easyfundraising to raise FREE donations for us. Book now: http://efraising.org/fx3w1QPP7u

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