

# Sandal Magna Parish Newsletter

Home, Hope, Hands

April 2024



## From our Vicar, Revd Hannah Smith

Dear all,

I often quote Mother Theresa who said: 'Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of Christ risen.'

As we have celebrated Easter, let's continue to remember the joy and hope we have because Jesus lives – and is always with us in every situation.

We have an opportunity over this term to share that hope and joy of Jesus with others through the Alpha course. This is a 10 week course which explores the Christian faith, thinking about who is Jesus? Why did Jesus die? How do we pray? How do we read the Bible? and many other questions.



Starts 6pm Sunday 14th April 2024  
At The Spring Community Cafe,  
Barnsley Road, Wakefield.  
Register at [sandalmagna@gmail.com](mailto:sandalmagna@gmail.com)

Website



**For the**  
explorers,  
open-minded,  
still thinking,  
**curious.**



Each evening, we share a meal, either watch a video or listen to a talk that explores one of these topics, then we have an opportunity to discuss, chat and ask questions in a small group around our tables.

We are holding an Alpha course in the Spring on Sunday evenings 6-8pm from Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April for 10 weeks (with a week off for bank holiday 26<sup>th</sup> May). Would you or someone you know appreciate this opportunity to explore the Christian faith? Please let the office know if you are planning to come so we can make sure there is enough food and cater for dietary requirements.

It would be great to see you and/or your friends

there! With love and prayers,

*Hannah*

The Parish Office, St. Helen's Church, Barnsley Road, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 6EJ  
Tel. 01924 259966 Email: [sandalmagna@gmail.com](mailto:sandalmagna@gmail.com)  
Parish Administrator: *Ruth McCallum*, [ruth.sandalmagna@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.sandalmagna@gmail.com)  
Assistant Administrator: *Denise Chivers*, [denise.sandalmagna@gmail.com](mailto:denise.sandalmagna@gmail.com) (Funerals & Tree of Life)  
Volunteer Administrator: *Anne Francos*, [annef.sandalmagna@gmail.com](mailto:annef.sandalmagna@gmail.com) (Wedding & Baptisms)  
Website: [www.sandalmagna.com](http://www.sandalmagna.com) Facebook page: Sandal Magna Parish YouTube: Sandal Magna

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## Alpha Course

### Your Questions Answered

#### **Q1: What is the Alpha course all about?**

A1: The Alpha course aims to answer all the big questions we all have about life, faith and God. Alpha began at a church called Holy Trinity Brompton (HTB) in London in 1977 and outlines the core principles of the Christian faith. It is an opportunity to ask questions, explore ideas and engage in discussions.

#### **Q2: Why should I come to the Alpha course?**

A2: You should come if you have questions or want to discuss some of the bigger issues in life, or if you would like to have an opportunity to explore a relationship with Jesus. You may want to bring a friend – it's often easier to come to new things when you know someone. Or just come for the free food!

#### **Q3: Where and when will Alpha take place?**

A3: Sessions will be held at the Spring, Barnsley Road Sandal, at 6pm every Sunday from 14 April 2024.

#### **Q4: What is the commitment with the Alpha course? How long does it last?**

A4: The course will last for 10 weeks and each session will last for 2 hours.

#### **Q5: What typically happens each session?**

A5: All Alpha participants are our guests and each session starts informally with food and the opportunity to share. There will then be some teaching, covering a key element of the gospel each week in a way that is easy to follow and leaves space to explore questions about life, faith, and God.

#### **Q6: Is there anything else I should know?**

A6: A hot meal will be served each week – be sure to let us know about any food intolerances when you sign up.

#### **Q7: Does the Alpha course cover all faiths?**

A7: Alpha outlines the core principles of the Christian faith that all denominations agree on. It does not cover other faiths.

#### **Q8: I have a friend who is interested in coming – what should I tell them?**

Firstly, that they will be very welcome. You should also tell them that it is an opportunity to ask questions, explore ideas and engage in discussions about life, faith and God. You should also consider coming along with them – it is often much easier to go to something with someone we know.

*Hannah*

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## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Just letting you know of the forthcoming meetings so you can put the dates in your diary! 10 am start, in the Emmaus rooms, to 12 midday.

APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>; Hope you all had a lovely Easter! (WE ARE NOT MEETING the first Monday of the month that is Easter Monday!) So we are joining in with Ann and her Community Games morning (board type) or just come for a cuppa & chat.



MAY 6<sup>th</sup>; Even though it is a Bank Holiday, we WILL be meeting on this Monday! Val Williamson will be talking to us about the three Kings, called Charles! (All three of them!)

JUNE 3<sup>rd</sup>; Author Madeline Wilson is coming to speak to us about her work & inspiration for the books she has written.

Looking forward to seeing you! *Gill Heap*

## Christians Against Poverty

"A quick update on St. Helen's Debt Centre:

We continue to share the CAP work unequally, as Nick still can't make visits to clients. But Vivienne is doing a sterling job of keeping on top of that side of things, while Nick will be working from home. His job includes writing Easter cards to everyone on our books. The cards may or may not be accompanied by a small bar of chocolate, depending on availability and opportunity to buy!



After Easter we'll be getting our wonderful befrienders together, when we hope to recruit one or two new volunteers to the role. As always, we are grateful for any help we get, and of course, for your continuing prayers. A very happy Easter to you all.

*Nick and Vivienne Drayton.*

# Sandal Magna Parish Newsletter



## Hymns Ancient & Modern

*'Sing to the Lord a new song ....*

*.... break into singing and make music' - Psalm 98*

*'Time and tide wait for no man .... neither will composers' - Anon*

'Hymns Ancient & Modern' including 273 hymns was first published as a full music edition in 1861. A total of eight further editions and supplements were produced, leading to the A & M Standard Edition of 1922 (which one recalls as a young chorister was still in use in the 1950s) with a content of 779 hymns!

New material appeared in 1969 - '100 Hymns for Today' (adopted at Sandal Endowed CE Middle School in 1975). This, with its sister publication 'More Hymns for Today' were then amalgamated with just 333 hymns from the Standard Version to form '**Ancient & Modern New Standard Edition**'. This reprint of 1983 was introduced at St. Helen's (the old bright red book). New hymns showed that times were changing: Be thou my vision; Christ is the King, O friends rejoice; I danced in the morning; Lord of all hopefulness; Praise and thanksgiving; Tell out my soul; Thine be the glory; When I needed a neighbour.

New writers continued to enhance our worship opportunities with our current hymn book '**Ancient & Modern Hymns and Songs for Refreshing Worship**' (first published in 2013) with 847 items including a vast array of new material. Too many new authors and composer to list but to give you a flavour:

Graham Kendrick (b1950): 719 - Lord the light of your love is shining; 489 - From heaven you came helpless babe and 160 - Make way, make way for Christ the King.

Bernadette Farrell (b1957): Longing for light, we wait in darkness; 342 - Word of God renew your people and 747 - O God you search me and you know me.

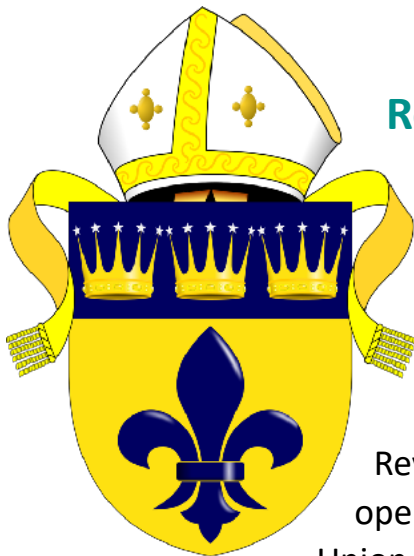
Stuart Townend (b1963) & Keith Getty (b1974): 144 - How deep the Father's love; 215 - See what a morning & 678 - In Christ alone my hope is found ....

.... not forgetting John Bell (b1949), Graham Maule (b1958) & John Barnard (b1948).

Just to keep our feet on the ground, our fingers on the keys and ourselves in good voice, we must not forget Charles Wesley (1707-1788); John Stainer (1840-1901); Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900); William Walsham Howe (1832-1897); Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) and hundreds of authors, composers and arrangers.

Why not check out their names, their ages and contributions in the Indices at the back of your A & M?

*John Arnold Organist*



## Report on the Deanery Synod meeting

This was at the Treacy Hall, Wakefield Cathedral on Wed 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024. There were 38 people present including Revd Hannah Smith and Mike Keeton from Sandal Magna.

The Area Dean Revd Canon David Gerrard welcomed everyone to the meeting. Opening prayer was led by Revd Dr Philip Hobday ; Canon Missioner of Wakefield Cathedral.

Revd Philip Hobday mentioned that the Treacy Hall was now open on Friday mornings, with tea/coffee served by the Mothers Union and for lunches on Tuesdays and encouraged people to drop in. A volunteer run 'pop-up' cafe` will also be opening on an experimental basis later in March, probably on Wednesdays and Thursdays; details will be circulated to parishes when confirmed. The meeting consisted of a speaker on Fairtraide and an update on Living in Love and Faith – see following articles. The Revd David Gerrard then moved on to the 'Ordinary Business ' of the Deanery Synod and concluded with a form of Compline (Night Prayer).

*Mike Keeton. Deanery Synod Representative*

## Living in Loving and Faith

On the subject of marriage; the General Synod and the House of Bishops had overwhelming agreed that there should be no change in the Church's doctrine of marriage.



# LIVING IN LOVE & FAITH

However, on a close vote the blessing of (couples in) same-sex marriages has been authorised within certain limits. These limits are: that such blessings must be used during ordinary services - although the GS did vote to trial possible 'standalone' services in selected areas. The basic principle in all this is a typical C of E one in that the decision to use such blessings will be devolved to individual PCCs and Incumbents. David reminded us that we must approach this with Christian love and charity at all times. There was then some discussion and questions amongst individual members of the meeting.

*Mike Keeton. Deanery Synod Representative*

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## Fairtrade

David Gerrard introduced the speaker-David Greenwood-Haigh who has a background as a chocolatier and is a Reader in the North Wakefield Benefice and has been involved in the 'Fairtrade' movement for 20years.

Basically, Fairtrade is based on Christian principles of fair dealing. David GH said that the Diocese was aiming to be a 'Fairtrade' one --encouraging parishes to use Fairtrade products in their social gatherings. There is an wholesaler

in Bradford -'Premcrest'- which supplies Fairtrade tea, coffee and confectionary.

David GH said that we should strive to become a Fairtrade Deanery. A good idea would be to find which parishes are already using Fairtrade products. St George's, Lupset is one example - are there any others? David GH then asked the meeting if they had any questions:

A number of questions followed including; What exactly is 'fair trade'?; Should churches have a Fairtrade officer ? ; What makes a Fairtrade church ? Is there a recognisable certification for Fairtrade? He answered that 'Fairtrade' is an international movement to ensure that small tropical producers get a fair price and there is a Fairtrade logo attached to the products which is internationally recognised. There is no particular need for a Fairtrade officer; simply buy and use Fairtrade products.

David GH concluded by saying that he was open to anyone contacting him and would come to talk or preach to any churches inviting him David Gerrard thanked Mr Greenwood -Haigh.

*Mike Keeton. Deanery Synod Representative*



## Installation of our new Archdeacon, Cat Thatcher on May 5th

This will take place at Wakefield Cathedral on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 3.30 pm .

Cat (Catherine) -presently the Vicar of Oxenhope ( Keighley) originally from Manchester is a Cambridge graduate (Emmanuel College-History) who before ordination in 2014 worked in the public sector in London, and for the National church. Moved to Bradford in 2003 and worked in senior NHS admin and management positions. She plays the piano and keeps two pet cats ; called 'Bishop' and 'Ben Stokes'.

*Mike Keeton. Deanery Synod Representative*

# Sandal Magna Parish Newsletter



## News from The Spring

### Thank You

Thank you to everyone who has enjoyed one of our Lent Lunches, supporting the work of the Amos Trust in Gaza – to date you have raised £635. Amazing.

**Volunteers needed** – if you find you can spare a few hours a week to volunteer at The Spring – we'd love to hear from you. Our current areas of need are working with our Washing Up team on Wednesday Afternoons & Friday Afternoons from 2-4pm. We do also have opportunities in The Shop at varying times. I am always happy to chat through with you the various roles on offer or if you know someone who is currently a volunteer perhaps ask them!!! We really are a very friendly bunch and time and time again our team say what an amazing place to serve in – but don't take our word for it come and down and give it a go !!

**Easter Closure** – we have amended our holidays and will now not re-open until Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April. This will allow my staff and volunteers to enjoy a good rest before our Summer term which doesn't end until Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

### Whats On

**The Spring Garden** – having finally managed to find a Grounds Maintenance Volunteer we are delighted to be able to open our Outdoor Seating area after Easter. Clearly we also need the weather to dry-out and warm up a bit but we are for ever optimistic and we shall leave that in our Lord's hands.

**Knit & Knatter** – held in the Spring Café every Thursday from 2pm-4pm – come and join Liz and the gang and enjoy a couple of hours of fellowship with like minded folk – who knows you may learn a new skill and be exhibiting at the Craft Fayre in 2024.

**Alpha** – will be starting on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April at The Spring – so please do contact the Parish Office on 01924 259966 to chat through what's planned and register your interest.

### Yoga Classes with Margaret Clegg

Wednesday 7.30 to 9pm

If you are interested in joining this class please call Margaret on 01924 370673 & Mobile 07787175432 and she will be happy to talk you through any questions you may have – all levels catered for from beginners to the more advanced.



# Sandal Magna Parish Newsletter



## News from the Spring continued

### Slimming World with Vicky

Every Tuesday 5pm and 6.30pm – a warm welcome extended to all whether your new, existing or returning – contact Vicky on 07966 202826 if you want any further information.

## APCM – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7pm at St. Paul's.

For our Annual Parochial Church Meeting this year we are going to meet on a Wednesday evening at St. Paul's. All welcome for bring and share meal at 7pm with the meeting starting around 8pm. We will hear news from around the parish and do the formal business of approving accounts and electing folk. All welcome.

*Hannah*



## Youth Update

Aren't young people brilliant? There is such a need for people to work with them and thanks to a wonderful bunch of volunteers, we are able to do just that. On a Monday evening, at the Portobello Community Centre, we have the Hot Chocolate youth group, for young people aged 1 to 16. We had 14 young people coming to that group last week, and as it has not been going long, this is a great beginning. They all moan at 8pm when we close – they enjoy having somewhere to go where they can play. One thing that is telling, is that when giving out leaflets to young people on their way home from school, one girl didn't know what a youth group was. A sign that what we are doing here is really needed.

With Shield, we meet every other Sunday at St Helens and play some games, study the Scriptures and eat biscuits. Some of the young people in Shield have now started taking part and help lead the worship at the All Together services and will be helping with the readings and other things in those services as well.

*Phil Asquith*



# Sandal Magna Parish Newsletter



## Portobello Community Centre Activities

[www.portobellocommunitycentre.org](http://www.portobellocommunitycentre.org)

  [portobellocommunitycentre](https://www.facebook.com/portobellocommunitycentre)

**OUR YEAR**  
Portobello 2024

# THIS IS OUR YEAR

## WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

### MONDAY

#### Sewcial Crafting Group

10am to 1pm | £2

#### Hot Chocolate Youth Club

7pm to 8pm | 11 to 16 year olds

FREE Pizza and hot chocolate

### TUESDAY

#### Portobello Craft & Photography Group

12.30pm to 2.30pm | £2

AA

7.30pm to 8.30pm

### WEDNESDAY

#### Portobello Baby & Toddler Group

9.15am to 11am

£1 adults / 50p baby or toddler

### THURSDAY

#### Portobello Drop In

11am to 1pm | Donations welcome

#### Chair Based Exercise Class

1.30 pm to 2.30 pm | £2

#### Kung Fu

7pm to 8pm - Beginners

8pm to 9pm - Advanced

£2 adults / £1 children 10+

### FRIDAY

#### Sewcial Crafting Group

10am to 1pm | £2

#### Zumba

6pm to 7pm

£2 adults / £1 children over 14+

#### Yoga

7pm to 8pm

£2 adults / £1 children 11+

### MONTHLY

#### Sat, 6 April YOUTH DISCO

6pm to 8pm | For Yr 7 to 11 | FREE

#### Wed, 10 April COMMUNITY MEAL

5pm to 7pm | £2 adult / £1 child

#### Wed, 24 April SEWCIAL CRAFTING

7pm to 9pm | £2 adult / £1 child

#### Sat, 11 April TRINITY MODELLERS

10am to 1pm | £2 adult / £1 child

### WORKSHOPS

#### Henna Design

12pm to 2pm | £2

Wed, 17 & 24 April

#### Needle Felting

10am to 12.30pm | Sat, 6 April

£10 for session

Call or text 07388 356008 to book

   @ouryear2024

 [ouryear2024.co.uk](http://ouryear2024.co.uk)

 wakefieldcouncil

# Sandal Magna Parish Newsletter



## Community Events - at The Spring and in Walton

Booking is still open for our Fun Run on the early May Bank Holiday.

Libby Hall

Sandal Singers Present

# Believe in Music

A choir concert of pop, musical and film songs with some solo performances

- Monday 15th April, 7pm -  
Sandal Methodist Church  
253 Barnsley Rd, Sandal WF1 5NU

Tickets £10 inc refreshments.  
Children under 16 free.  
Pay on the door.

Supporting 'Our Year' Wakefield District 2024  
and raising funds for Andy's Man Club.  
#ITSOKAYTOTALK

# BINGO NIGHT

FREE Admission! (Adults only please)  
Cards available to purchase on the night.  
All profits are to keep our library running!

**CASH PRIZES - RAFFLE - REFRESHMENTS**

Tuesday, 23rd April at 7 PM  
Walton Community Library  
6 Almond Avenue (off The Grove) WF2 6UA

[www.waltonlibrary.org.uk](http://www.waltonlibrary.org.uk)

## LEGGING IT FOR THE LIBRARY!

# 5K FUN RUN

**MONDAY MAY 6TH**

AROUND WALTON NATURE PARK AND STARTING FROM  
CROFTON SIDINGS, SHAY LANE WF4 1NW

**RAISING MONEY FOR WALTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY!**

PROFESSIONAL TIMING FREE PARKING REFRESHMENTS

ALL ENTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A ZERO WASTE WOODEN MEDAL

5K COMPLETE WALK START TIME IS 10:00 £10  
5K WALK START TIME IS 10:30 £10  
CHILDREN'S FUN WALK 1.5 MILE FOR 2-10YRS FROM 10:00 STARTS AT 10:00 £5  
REGISTER ONLINE OR BY THE DOOR FROM 7:30AM (CASH ONLY PLEASE)

REGISTER ON SITE OR AT [racebest.com/races/k863x](https://www.racebest.com/races/k863x)

WALTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY

## CALENDAR PHOTO COMPETITION

All photos must have been **RECOGNISABLY** taken in WALTON!

**END DATE AUGUST 31ST**

**FOLLOWED BY A DISPLAY AND PUBLIC VOTE!**

All entries must be in **LANDSCAPE** orientation and taken by the entrant within the Walton boundary.

Please email a maximum of 3 entries per person to [waltonshots@gmail.com](mailto:waltonshots@gmail.com)

**GIVE US YOUR 3 BEST SHOTS!**  
LET'S JOIN THE CONTEST

# Sandal Magna Parish Newsletter



## Regular Activities at St Helen's and St Paul's

Church Groups or Activities	
1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of each month 10.00 -12.00	Women's Fellowship. Emmaus Room. Contact Gill Heap. 01924 250103
2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month 10.30am – 12.00	Community Spirit Games. Emmaus Room, St Helen's. Contact Ann Dobson. 01924 250562
3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month 7.30pm – 9.30pm	Mother's Union. Barnabas Room, St Paul's
Wednesday 9.00am -12.00	Gardening Team. Contact Alex Hull 01924 256764
Church Cleaners 9.30am – 12.00 midday	Contact Vickie Lord. 01924 255938
Wednesday 7.00pm	Bellringers practice for Sunday Services. St Helen's. Contact Margot Cutt. 01924 255918
Thursday 7.00pm	Choir Practice. Usually the Thursday before the 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays. St Helen's Church. Contact John Arnold. 01924 372597
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month 2.00 – 3.00pm	Contemplative Prayer Group. Barnabas Room, St Paul's. Contact Sue Davies. 07749 592858
Every 1st and 3rd Sunday. 6 -7:30pm in the Emmaus Rooms.	Shield Youth Group. Contact Rachel Chapman
Other Activities (charges may apply)	
Monday in term time 1.30 – 3.30pm	U3A Recorder Group. Emmaus Room, St Helen's. Contact David Johnson 07484 230520
Monday in term time 7.00pm to 9.15pm	Wind Band. Contact Adele Jones. 07850 483727
Thursday eve	Soroptimists, Barnabas Room, St Paul's. Contact Linda Phillips 07709 282403
Various days and times	Pilates, Barnabas Room, St Paul's. Contact Gill Carr. 07968199169

## Copy dates and contributions for Parish Newsletter

Anyone may send an item of Parish News to the Parish Office for the newsletter, please attach a photo if possible. The vicar is the final editorial decision maker! Copy dates are now the last Monday of the month for the next month's issue. The next copy date is Monday 29th April.

*Ruth McCallum*

### Dates for SHIELD Youth Group

April 7th and 21st

Contact *Rachel Chapman* 07815770540

### Polling Station at St Helens

St Helen's Emmaus Room will be used as a Polling Station on Thursday 2nd May. If you are able to volunteer to be around from 7 to 9am, or in the late afternoon or evening, please contact the Parish Office.

# Sandal Magna Parish Newsletter



## Articles for the Annual Report

As we start to prepare for the APCM in May, one of the first tasks to be done is to produce the Annual Report. This is always an interesting and varied document, covering all aspects of ministry in the Parish, and brought to life with lots of photos. Legally we must include reports on Safeguarding, Fabric, Deanery Synod, and PCC.

However, there is much more to Parish life than these four subjects and it would be lovely to have something about all our areas of ministry over the last year. I know some reports need to be longer, but ideally an article of about 250 words with a photo sits easily on a page and makes good reading. Please send items for the Annual Report to [office@sandalmagna.com](mailto:office@sandalmagna.com) by Monday 8th April. Many thanks for all the work you do and also for writing about it

*Ruth McCallum*

## Services at St Helen's and St Pauls April and May 2024

Sunday 7th April	9.30am St Helen's (Morning Prayer) 11.00am St Helen's (Morning Prayer with Kids Church) 11.00 am St Paul's (Morning Prayer)
Sunday 14th April	9.30am St Helen's (Holy Communion) 11.00am St Helen's (All Together Service) 11.00am St Paul's (Morning Prayer)
Sunday 21st April	9.30am St Helen's (Morning Prayer) 11.00am St Helen's (Holy Communion with kids church) 11.00 am St Paul's (Holy Communion)
Sunday 28th April	9.30am St Helen's (Holy Communion) 11.00am St Paul's (Holy Communion) 4.00pm Cafe Church, (The Spring Community Cafe)
Sunday 5th May	9.30am St Helen's (Morning Prayer) 11.00am St Helen's (Morning Prayer with Kids Church) 11.00 am St Paul's (Morning Prayer)
Sunday 12th May	9.30am St Helen's (Morning Prayer) 11.00am St Helen's (All Together Service) 11.00 am St Paul's (Morning Prayer)
Sunday 19th May	9.30am St Helen's (Holy Communion) 11.00am St Helen's (Holy Communion with kids church) 11.00 am St Paul's (Holy Communion)
Sunday 26th May	9.30am St Helen's (Holy Communion) 11.00am St Paul's (Morning Prayer) 4.00pm Cafe Church, (The Spring Community Cafe)