

Parish of Sandal Magna Newsletter



The lost are found, the found grow and the lonely are enfolded

December 2022

From our vicar, Rev Hannah Smith

Hello everyone,

I'm currently knee-deep in planning for my first Christmas in Sandal Magna. In the past three months I have enjoyed meeting many of you and slowly getting to know the people and the parish.

For the next month I will be focusing on Christmas celebrations – please do invite family, neighbours, colleagues and friends to our services – all are welcome to share in the celebration of Emmanuel, God with us in Jesus born among us.

Other good news is that I will be moving into the new Sandal Vicarage early in the New Year as the Diocese have purchased a house on Manygates Lane. I look forward to welcoming folk for house-warming once I am in and settled.

My hope is, that however you find yourself this Christmas, you will know Jesus close to you as you celebrate. Every blessing,

Hannah



Pop-Up Nativity at 11am at St Helen's on 18th Dec

What is a Pop-up Nativity?

It's re-telling the Nativity Story with no rehearsal needed 😊 It's for Everyone! The best part is you can come along dressed as any character from the story and it doesn't matter how many of each character we have. 🎅👼🐏🌟 We have a narrator ✓ and a script ✓ Let's go! 🎄 See you there!



Christmas at 11.30am at Portobello Community Centre on 21st Dec

Come and join us celebrating Christmas at the centre - There will be Children's crafts - refreshment - Christmas Carols and of course Santa will be there too! *Laura Truter, Children's Worker*

The Parish Office, St. Helen's Church, Barnsley Road, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 6EJ

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Advent

A time to look forward, to get ready...
St Helen's is getting ready... thanks to
all those who have worked hard to
make the church look so festive.



Changes to Newsletter

In consultation with Hannah, there is now a list of regular church activities on the back of this newsletter, instead of individual items about each group. Please continue to send any articles about special events if you would like something particular in the newsletter. We love to hear about the groups in our church life. Next **newsletter copy date will be Monday January 2nd**. Anyone is welcome to send an article to the office sandalmagna@gmail.com

Parish Office Christmas Closure

The Parish Office will be closed from lunchtime on Wednesday 21st December, and will re-open on Tuesday 3rd January 2023. Have a good break everyone!

Ruth McCallum

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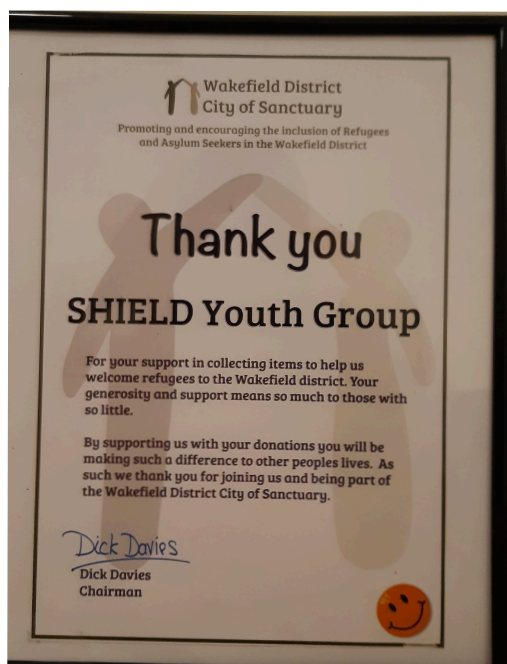


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Shield Youth Group News

As you may know, SHIELD collected Christmas selection boxes and sweets to donate to Wakefield District City of Sanctuary. Thanks to our church family supporting this, we had a grand total of 65 selection boxes, 10 packs of chocolate gold coins and 40 chocolate Santa lollipops which is amazing! Thank you to everyone who donated.

Tracey, who works for Wakefield District City of Sanctuary, came along to our Christmas party to collect the treats for the children of refugee families. She told us that many people often refuse to give and donate to refugee families, which we found heartbreaking. SHIELD youth and parents are determined to continue to support the refugees in Wakefield and we shall keep you updated about how you can support with this too. Tracey presented the group with a really special framed



This is how Wakefield District City of Sanctuary thanked our Shield Youth Group on Social Media

Visited the Wonderful Shield Youth Club tonight at St Helens Church to Collect the Selection Boxes they kindly collected for us and presented a Thank You Certificate for their hard work.



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Tower News

During a routine practice night the clapper of the Tenor (heaviest) bell broke off near the top of the shaft and fell out with a bump on the bell chamber floor! I'm told this was due to metal fatigue, a gradually increasing fault that could have happened at any time. We are so thankful that it didn't happen during the special ringing for our Late Queen, and the accession of King Charles III.

Roger Townend, who is our Tower Keeper and also a qualified engineer, found a small local company, Wakefield Welding, and asked them for a quotation for the repair. He was told that a quote would take longer than the actual job, and they would weld it straight away free of charge as it was for a Church. A great result and thank you to them!



On October 19th we welcomed an important visitor, our new Vicar Hannah.

We had a very enjoyable practice and sociable evening, during which Hannah visited the clock winding chamber and was helped to ring the back stroke of the 3rd bell. Some of us explained how we will ring half muffled and stand for Tenor when we ring for Remembrance Day, also how change ringing works. One ringer said afterwards "It's a pleasure to be a part of a great team."

Margot Cutt

Christmas Greetings from Rupert and Sally

Rupert and Sally send us Christmas greetings. There are copies of their Christmas letter in the Emmaus Room for anyone who would like one.



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christians
against
poverty

CAP

Christians Against Poverty

The CAP Debt Centre has not disappeared, as some might be forgiven for thinking. However, just as we were beginning to serve clients again, and things seemed to be going quite well, I was taken into hospital for an emergency operation. This has unfortunately put me out of action for several weeks. I hope that we will begin to operate again over the next couple of months, as I take on a fresh client in December, and increase my workload in the New Year.

I am very grateful for people's concern, prayers and support. Do please continue to pray for me, the Debt Centre and the work of CAP: prayer is something that is always needed, and in due course I will be explaining some of the other ways in which you can become involved in what we do to serve those who are struggling financially, if you feel drawn to do so.

Have a very good Christmas, God bless.

Nick Drayton, St Helen's Debt Centre Manager, CAP

Two New Ways to Give to our churches

As well as the collection plate, regular giving envelopes, green envelopes and standing order donations to the bank we now have two new ways to give to the work of our parish: Firstly the new Payaz digital giving machine in St Helen's by the door which can receive card payments. (see photo) We hope that occasional visitors to services without cash may use this.



Secondly we have a Give A Little website which can be reached using this QR Code using which card payments of any size with or without gift aid can be made.

We are seeking new ways to give as the church budget for next year has a significant shortfall due to energy costs and repairs as well as general inflation and we hope that the new methods may attract some extra donations as the church is wholly funded by its local community. If anyone has any questions please ask me. *Nigel Brook*

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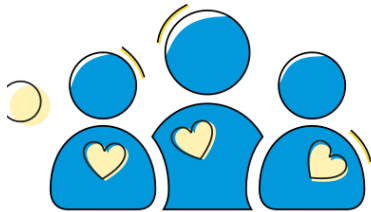
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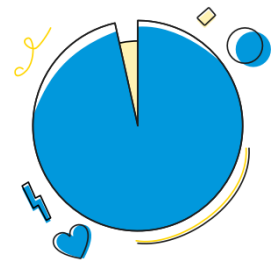


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Acts 435 helps people in our parish - can you help them?



Acts 435 is a way to directly help someone in need with something specific like a cooker, clothing or bills. We partner with Acts 435 and have helped lots of people in our community with essential needs. Can you reach out this Christmas to help someone?



Acts 435 is an online giving charity, directly connecting those who want to give with those who are in genuine need of their help, through a network of local churches and charities. It is a Christian Charity and its name comes from Acts Ch4 v35 where the early Christians gave for those in need. We are a partner with Acts 435 and you can support them by making a donation specifically for the needs of one of the people on their website. 100% of the donation amount goes to the recipient and you receive a thank you update when the need has been met. This is how it works:

- A local church or charity becomes an Acts 435 partner
- Partners post urgent needs on behalf of people in their community
- Donors read stories of need and give through the Acts 435 platform
- Partner contacts person in need and gives the item so desperately needed

Go to <https://www.acts435.org.uk/> or ask Sarah Cutts to find out more.



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PORTOBELLO COMMUNITY CENTRE WHAT'S ON



Sewcial Sewing Club

A lovely informal sewing group. Come along and learn and share your skills with others. £3 per session

Monday 10am to 1pm

Senior Youth Club

For ages 11-19. Term time only.

Monday 5pm to 7pm
FREE

Kung Fu

Want to get fit & learn new skills? This is the total package for mind, body & soul. 1st session free - £8 per session.

Monday 7.15pm to 9.15pm

Craft and Photography Group

Bring your own crafts and learn from others.

Tuesday 12.30am to 2.30pm
£2 per session

Warm Space

A space to charge your phone and keep warm. There'll be FREE soup, bread, fruit, hot & cold drinks available.

Tuesday 12.30am to 2.30pm

Alcoholics Anonymous

Get help with your drinking problem at this friendly & supportive group. Call Graham on 07951 922311 or just come along.

Tuesday 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Toddler Group

Group for pre-school children and their parents/carers. Term time only. FREE but donations welcome

Wednesday 9.30am to 11am

Chair Based Exercise

Exercise to help with falls prevention, balance and stability. Speak to Sharon to book your FREE place 07741 300455

Wednesday 11.30am to 12.30pm

Exercise to Music

Pilates style exercise - movement & stretches. Speak to Sharon to book your FREE place 07741 300455.

Wednesday 1.30pm to 2.30pm

Junior Youth Club

A youth group for 7-11 year olds. Term time only.

Wednesday 4.15pm to 6.15pm
FREE

Merrie City Singers

All welcome to join a friendly community choir. Term time only. £4 per session

Wednesday 7pm to 9pm

PCF Drop In

Need someone to talk to? Come along for a chat and an activity. Term time only. FREE but donations welcome

Thursday 11am to 1pm

Warm Space

A space to charge your phone and keep warm. There'll be FREE soup, bread, fruit, hot & cold drinks available.

Thursday 11am to 1pm

Chair Based Exercise

Exercise to help with falls prevention, balance and stability. Speak to Sharon to book your FREE place 07741 300455

Thursday 1.30pm to 2.30pm

Sewcial Knitters and Modellers

Bring along any craft you want. We have knitters, modellers, sewers and crafters. £3 per session

Friday 10am to 1pm

Circuit Class

Speak to Sharon to book your FREE place 07741 300455 - booking essential.

Friday 6pm to 7pm

Wellbeing Course

12 week course running from Sept. Speak to Sharon to book your FREE place 07741 300455 - booking essential.

Friday 7pm to 8pm

Strong Tower Christian Centre

Worship and praise every Sunday.

Sunday 10am to 12.30pm



Enquiries: Sarah Cutts, Centre Manager, 07799 534702, sarahcuttspcf@gmail.com



PCF Wakefield



portbellowakefield or <https://portbellocommunitycentre.wordpress.com/>

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Warm Spaces in our Parish

Monday - 11am - 1pm - Rainbow Cafe, Portobello

Tuesday - 9.30am to 11.30am - Walton Methodist Church

Tuesday - 12.30pm to 2.30pm - Portobello Community Centre

Tuesday - 2.30pm to 4pm - The Spring Community Cafe

Wednesday - 9.30am to 11.30am - Sandal Methodist

Wednesday - 11am to 1pm - Rainbow Cafe, Portobello

Wednesday - 2.30pm to 4pm - The Spring Community Cafe

Thursday - 11am to 1pm - Portobello Community Centre

Thursday - 1.30pm to 4pm - Walton Methodist Church

Thursday - 2.30pm to 4pm - The Spring Community Cafe

Friday - 9.15am to 12 noon - Rainbow Cafe, Portobello

Friday - 2.30pm to 4pm - The Spring Community Cafe

Friday - 5pm to 7pm - Rainbow Cafe, Portobello

Saturday - 9.30am to 11am - Walton Methodist Church

Saturday 2pm to 6pm - Rainbow Cafe, Portobello

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Sounds of the Season



Join Sandal Community Association for our

Christmas Concert

with Horbury Victoria Youth Brass Band

Plus mince pies and wine - and a festive quiz!



Friday, December 16

West Yorkshire Sports and Social Club

at 7.30pm

Tickets £8 each for SCA members, £10 non-members

Call Les Goddard 01924 252282

All proceeds in aid of the SCA's Christmas tree fund

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Sandal Singers Presents:

musicactually



Monday 19th
December, 7pm
Sandal Methodist
Church - WF15NU
£8 Adults
£5 Children

Songs Include: May It Be - God Only Knows - Hallelujah - All I Want for Christmas - Underneath the Tree - California Dreamin' - All You Need is Love - You Raise Me Up - Amid the Falling Snow

Proceeds will be donated towards the church where we rehearse each week.

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Services at St Helen's and St Paul's in December and January

Services Dec and Jan 2022	
Sunday Dec 4th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday Dec 11th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Helen's 11.00am Village Carol Service, St Paul's 4.00pm Traditional Carol Service, St Helen's
Sunday Dec 18th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am Pop Up Nativity, St Helen's 11.00am Communion, St Paul's 7.00pm Contemporary Carols, St Helen's
Wednesday Dec 21st	11.30am Portobello Christmas, Portobello Community
Saturday Dec 24th	4.00pm Christingle, St Paul's 11.15pm Midnight Communion, St Helen's
Sunday Dec 25th	9.30am Family Communion, St Helen's 11.00am Christmas Praise, St Paul's
Sunday Jan 1st	9.30am St Helen's (This is a joint service with St Paul's people, no separate service at St Paul's)
Sunday Jan 8th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday Jan 15th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday Jan 22nd	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's
Sunday Jan 29th	9.30am St Helen's 11.00am St Paul's 5.00pm Café Church, The Spring Community Cafe



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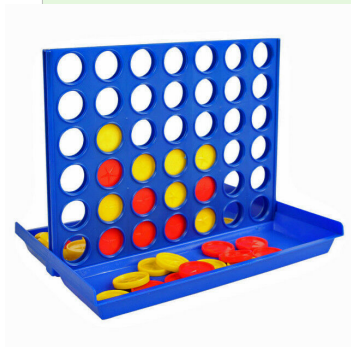
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Regular Activities at St Helen's and St Paul's

Church Groups or Activities	
1 st Monday of each month 10.30 -12.00 (including Jan 2nd 2023!)	Women's Fellowship. Emmaus Room. Contact Gill Heap. 01924 250103
2 nd Monday of each month 10.30am – 12.00	Community Spirit Games. Emmaus Room, St Helen's. Contact Ann Dobson. 01924 250562
3 rd Monday of each month 7.30pm – 9.30pm	Mother's Union. Barnabas Room, St Paul's (But December meeting will be on 12 th Dec)
Wednesday 9.00am -12.00	Gardening Team. Contact Alex Hull 01924 256764
Church Cleaners 9.30am –	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 nd and 4 th Sundays. St Helen's Church. Contact John Arnold. 01924 372597
2 nd Thursday of each month 2.00 – 3.00pm	Contemplative Prayer Group. Barnabas Room, St Paul's. Contact Sue Davies. 01924 255129
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



The Fellowship of
Contemplative Prayer



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