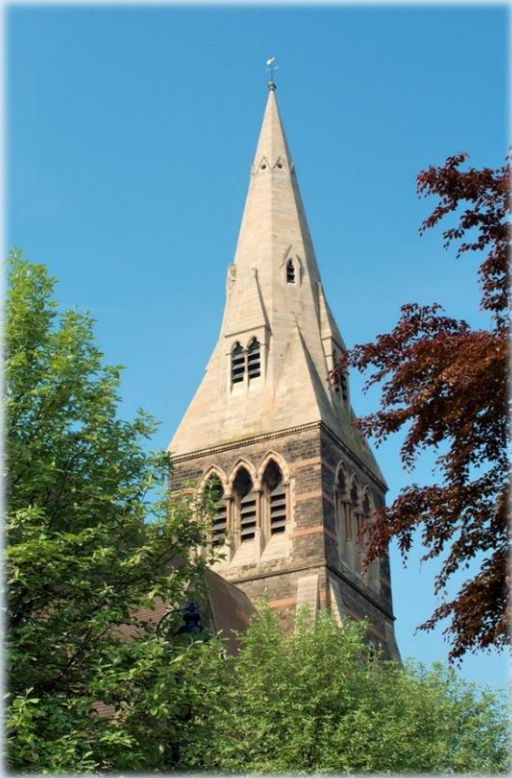


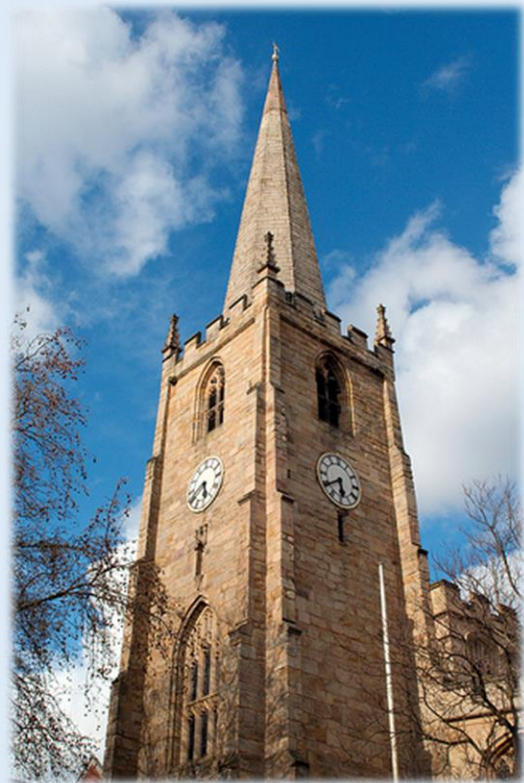


ST PETER & ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM



**November
2023**

Parish Magazine



*This magazine is provided free of charge, but
donations are invited to help cover costs;
please use the donations boxes in the churches.*

THE PARISH OF ST PETER AND ALL SAINTS, NOTTINGHAM

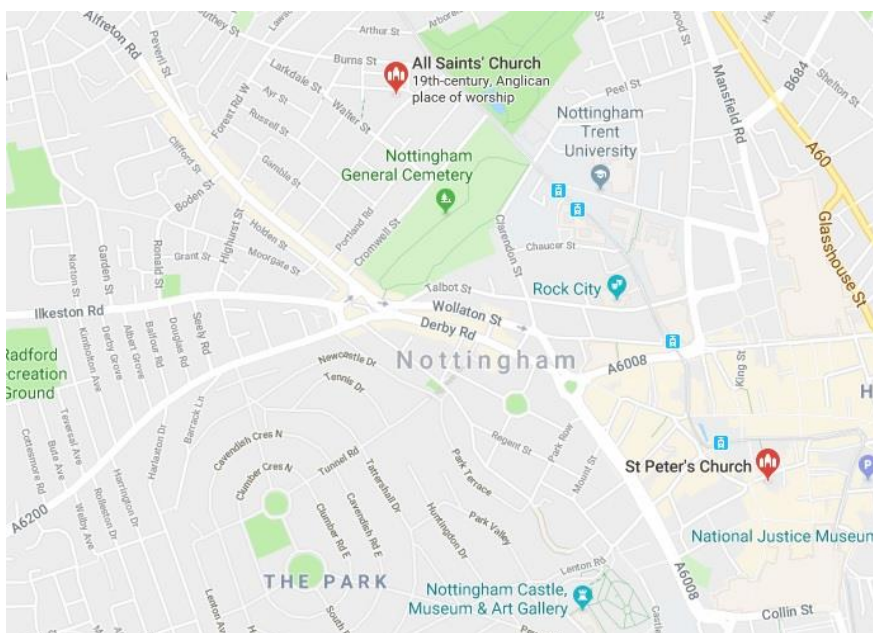


PARISH CLERGY Rev. Christopher Harrison <i>Rector</i> Rev. Dr Richard Davey <i>Associate Priest</i> Rev. Dr Helen Hall <i>Priest with permission to officiate</i> Rev. Gill Page <i>Priest with permission to officiate</i> Rev. Owen Page <i>Priest with permission to officiate</i>	CHURCHWARDENS Lorraine Smedley, David Towers – All Saints' Dorothy Mountford, Jane Henson – St Peter's Chigozie Nwachukwu – Assistant Churchwarden, St Peter's
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CHURCHES

St Peter's Church, St Peter's Square, Nottingham NG1 2NW

All Saints' Church, Raleigh Street, Nottingham NG7 4DP



From the Clergy...

The Reverend Christopher Harrison

At this time of year, I always think of my great uncle Dennis Mills, who was shot and killed in the First World War in 1917. In the autumn of 2017, Eva and I visited the war cemetery and memorial at Thiepval, in northern France, where his name is recorded (his remains were never found). There are over 70,000 names etched into the stone of this massive monument, all of which are of soldiers whose bodies were not recovered. It is a profoundly moving and sombre reminder of the massive loss of life around the river Somme; so many lives were suddenly cut short in circumstances so horrendous that we can barely begin to imagine them. We have one letter sent from the front by great uncle Dennis back to his parents, in which he writes with loving appreciation about a gift he had just received from them. Shortly afterwards he died.



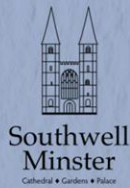
I wonder how many millions of other families experienced similar tragedies, in both the First and Second World Wars. How many people still today pass on to the next generation the stories of sadness and loss, sometimes also of heroism and sacrifice, which enable the memory of the fallen to live on? We must never allow the inexorable march of time to make us forget these people, and all those who returned from war scarred, injured and traumatised. Many families never recovered from the loss of those whom they loved; there were also many civilians who died.

But 'When will they ever learn?', as the familiar song reminds us. We look at our television screens speechless, our hearts sinking deeper and deeper, as the scale of the loss of life and the devastation in Gaza increase day by day. We are still reeling from the shock of learning that a massacre of more than a thousand Israeli people took place in a few short hours, just over a month ago. There is currently no end in sight to the crisis, although surely a ceasefire would allow time for humanitarian aid to be delivered, and for reflection on how to bring the conflict to a swift and lasting conclusion. This seems unlikely, however, and one recalls how the First and Second World Wars developed a momentum of their own, and resulted in massive loss of life before they came to an end. We can only hope and pray that the current conflict will not spread and become even more difficult to resolve. And all this alongside the ongoing conflict in Ukraine; there is also the civil war in Sudan, where the world seems to be ignoring the needs of the estimated 5.8 million people who have been displaced since it began in April 2023. Civil war in Yemen, also, has continued since 2014; the United Nations estimates that over 350,000 people have died both as a direct result of the fighting and through famine and lack of healthcare facilities.

We can surely, therefore, understand the tone of fatalism in the words of the song, as history repeats itself again and again. For many world leaders, life is cheap; weapons of war are becoming more and more powerful and are being used with little or no restraint on civilians. Other non-military weapons such as the denial of water, electricity and healthcare provision, as well as violence against women and children, have been used since time immemorial and show little sign of being consigned to the history books.

All of which means that Remembrance Day remains as important as ever, if not more so. In the past, there have been those who arguably have used this occasion to glorify war, and have played down the immense suffering which war always entails. Now, the urgency of recalling the horrors of the two World Wars is all the greater. Not only do we give thanks at this time for all those whose lives were lost in ensuring that this country remained free, but we remind ourselves just how easy it is for nations to slide into conflict. We think that it will not happen again; but who knows what the consequences of current tensions might be if the principle of maintaining peace is not upheld as an absolute priority.

Jesus said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God'. Just as a million small acts of hatred and violence can in time change a culture and make it more warlike, in the same way a million acts of everyday love and compassion can help to make our society more peaceable and resistant to war. World leaders are not the only ones with power; the future lies in our hands too.



A fundraising event
for Southwell Minster

*This event will include members of
our congregations who also took
part in 'Gaia: our only home' in the
Minster over the summer.*

WORDS & MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER
3 - 4 pm
AT SOUTHWELL MINSTER

Inspiring poetry and music performed
in the beautiful State Chamber.
Festive refreshments following the performance.



Tickets £10, available from the Cathedral Shop or at www.southwellminster.org



Prayers for November

Father of all, remember your holy promise, and look with love on all your people, living and departed.

We especially ask that you hold forever all who have suffered during war, those who returned scarred by warfare, those who waited anxiously at home, and those who returned wounded, and disillusioned; those who mourned, and those communities that were diminished and suffered loss.

Remember too those who acted with kindly compassion, those who bravely risked their own lives for their comrades, and those who in the aftermath of war, worked tirelessly for a more peaceful world.

And as you remember them, remember us, O Lord; grant us peace in our time and a longing for the day when people of every language, race, and nation will be brought into the unity of Christ's kingdom.

This we ask in the name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Let heaven and nature sing

Lorraine Smedley

At All Saints' we are blessed with a large green expanse of churchyard. The question is how to manage it? Some years ago, thanks to imagination, clear sightedness and hard work, the Peace Garden emerged from the jumble of bramble that always threatens to return given half a chance. This summer, however, the whole of the churchyard has been kept in shape by Community Payback from the Probation Service. Now we have the opportunity to create a vegetable garden to complement the work of SFiCE in the parish hall, who continue to provide hot, healthy meals for the people who find their way there. This new idea is in partnership with Nottz Garden Project, a small group of people who aim to build up 'community resilience' in NG7. They do this by rejuvenating small pockets of land that have become neglected or, in our case, with more than enough to use for an additional, alternative purpose. Gamble Street corner was a weed and litter strewn patch of land at the side of the road. Alongside growing flowers and veg they installed a free book box and worked creatively, running art and gardening events through the summer to attract the local community. Please take a look. It is about so much more than growing vegetables.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/nottz-garden-project>

As to the churchyard, there is still plenty of room for the church barbeques, sun bathers, dog walkers, family get togethers and workers catching a quiet break or working lunch. Our churchyard has become akin to an outdoor community centre. Come and see.

An article about Nottz Garden Project can also be found in the November edition of the Leftlion magazine -

<https://leftlion.co.uk/features/2023/10/leftlion-magazine-165-november-2023/>

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Sunday evening services

Beginning on Advent Sunday, 3rd December, Choral evening services will once again take place at St Peter's Church at 5 pm. Evensong (second Sunday of the month) and Compline (fourth Sunday of the month) are both beautiful services and the perfect way to end the day - please support them if you are able to.



Book of the month

The Hedgehog Diaries- A story of Faith Hope and Bristles
by Sarah Sands

'This is a beautiful and moving book but also one with an important core message about our need to protect the natural world.'

Douglas Grant - Director of the Natural History Museum

The diaries open with Sarah Sand's description of one autumn day finding the hedgehog they called Horace. She tells how her husband, the son of a Yorkshire vet, was notably unsentimental about animals, yet something melted within him when confronted with the hedgehog.

Inevitably Mrs Tiggy-Winkle and the young hedgehogs from 'The Wind in the Willows' are referenced, but the quote from a letter Ted Hughes sent to a friend shows another tough Yorkshire man's response to the prickly one:

"I hear a commotion in the hedge and out trundled a friendly hedgehog merry as you like. I thought he might make a jolly companion for the evening so I brought him in. After a while I noticed he had disappeared and later heard a noise like the sobbing of a little child but very faint...I traced it to a pile of boxes and there was my comrade with his nose pressed in a corner in a pool of tears and his face all wet snivelling and snuffling his heart out. I could have kissed him from compassion. I don't know why I'm so sympathetic towards hedgehogs."

After a visit to the Hedgehog Hotel Horace became Peggy. As Sands' beloved father faced his final days, Peggy brought solace to her. The night her father died was the night she let Peggy back into the wild.

The hedgehog was around long before the human species. It existed 6.5 million years ago and has managed to survive roads, dogs, strimmers* and pesticides, but now they are an endangered species. Our failure to protect them is a symptom of our alienation from the living world. However, through 'The Hedgehog Diaries' we realise that all is not lost. Sands explores the meaning and morals of hedgehogs and finds their world a deep source of solace and wisdom.

In his address to parliament in 2015, MP Rory Stewart referred to the hedgehog as 'a magical creature' and 'symbol of the resurrection'. If you don't have the time to read the 'Hedgehog Diaries' do find 'Rory Stewart on Hedgehogs' on YouTube.

*'The Mower' by Philip Larkin

The Mower stalled, twice; kneeling, I found
A hedgehog jammed up against the blades,
Killed. It had been in the long grass.

I had seen it before, and even fed it, once.
Now I had mauled its unobtrusive world
Unmendably. Burial was no help:

Next morning I got up and it did not.
The first day after a death, the new absence
Is always the same; we should be careful

Of each other, we should be kind
While there is still time.

By 'Bramcote Book Worm'

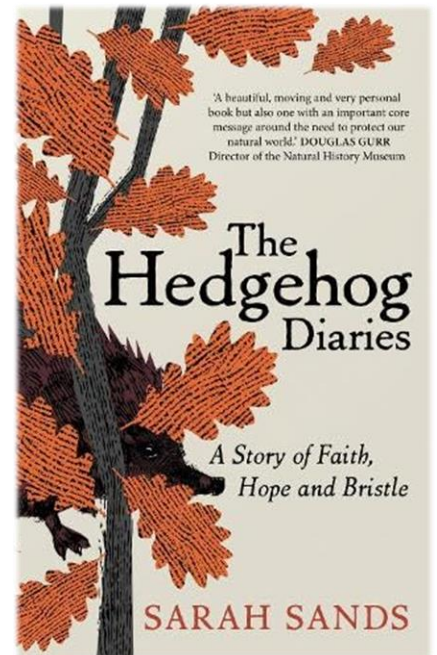


Photo: Sierra NiCole Narvaeth

Services in November

Sunday 5th	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45 am	Requiem Eucharist*	St Peter's
		Missa pro defunctis <i>Victoria</i> Kontakion of the Dead <i>Trad. Ukrainian</i>	
	5.00 pm	Holy Communion with prayers for healing	St Peter's
Monday 6th	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's
Tuesday 7th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Thursday 9th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 12th Remembrance Sunday	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	9.45 am	Family Service	St Peter's
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist for Remembrance	All Saints'
	10.45 am	Remembrance Day Service*	St Peter's
		Responses <i>Forbes L'Estrange</i> Light eternal <i>McDowall</i>	
Monday 13th	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's
Tuesday 14th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Thursday 16th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 19th	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45 am	Sung Eucharist*	St Peter's
		Holy Communion in C/F <i>Stanford/Dibble</i> God be in my head <i>Rutter</i>	
	5.00 pm	Taizé Service	St Peter's
Monday 20th	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's
Tuesday 21st	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Thursday 23rd	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Sunday 26th	8.15 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	All Saints'
	10.45 am	Sung Eucharist*	St Peter's
		Messe Solennelle <i>Vierne</i> Tantum ergo <i>de Séverac</i>	
	3.00 pm	World AIDS Day Service	St Peter's
	6.00 pm	Compline*	All Saints'
Monday 27th	1.15 pm	Meditation	St Peter's
Tuesday 28th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	1.15 pm	Holy Communion	St Peter's
Thursday 30th	11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's

Advent Vespers

Sunday 3rd December, 5 pm at St Peter's

All are encouraged to attend this special service on Advent Sunday. A beautiful start to the Advent season, the choir will sing music by Howells and Piccolo.

Regular Activities in our Churches

All Saints'

- Coffee and Fellowship (part of the Places of Welcome network):
Tuesdays from 11.30 am – 1.00 pm
- The Nottingham University Society of Change Ringers (Bell Ringers):
Tuesdays in term time, 7.00 – 8.30 pm
- The Nottingham Enlightening Word Church (Chinese) meets in All Saints' Church on
Sundays from 2.00 - 4.00 pm and on Friday evenings from 7.30 pm.
- St Gabriel's Eritrean Church – 5.30 – 9.30 am on Sundays.

St Peter's:

- The Thursday Communion service at 11.00 is followed by coffee and fellowship
- St Peter's Bell Ringers: Thursdays 7.00 – 9.00 pm

The Parish Overseas Committee meets every other month; the Caring for our Common Home working group also meets on a regular basis. Please contact the Rector if you would like to know more about these. Our churches also support the work of the Mount Zion foodbank at Bobbers Mill; collection boxes for gifts of food are available in the churches.

We are very grateful for all donations, which provide vital funds to keep our parish running.
Donations can be made via the contactless donation point by the West door at St Peter's,
or by scanning the QR code below.

Alternatively, cash or cheques (made payable to 'St Peter and All Saints PCC') can be given to a
member of staff or posted to the address below – please use a yellow Gift Aid envelope,
if you are able to.



The Parish Office
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0115 9483658

office@nottinghamchurches.org
www.nottinghamchurches.org

Charity number: 1130298