

WHO TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:

STAFF TEAM

VICAR: The Revd. Robert Lovatt (410033)
CHURCH MANAGER: Andy Anderson (732823)
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES WORKERS:
Julian Dale & Annelie Cooper (419400)

Church Warden	Andy Turner	741170
Church Warden	Sue Walker	411165
PCC Secretary	Doreen Nightingale	734440
Home Groups	Aileen Rickard	732823
Prayer Ministry	Bill Owen/Valerie Gurney....	653756
Prayer Chain	Linda Owen	653756
Table Talk.....	Christine Woodward.....	735665
Come Aside	Robert Lovatt	410033
Mothers Union.....	Kathryn Anderson	370403
Christian Life Group..	Margaret Gardner	734742
Aroma (Women)	Gail Ball	730552
J21:12 (Men)	Robert Kirby-Maynard	501609
Knit & Stitch	Gail Ball	730552
Parche Teams	Bernie Watts	325231
Flowers	Sue Walker	411165
Choir/Orchestra	David Churchyard	740243
Bell Ringers	David Leworthy	640327
Pastoral Visits	Beryl Twitchett	431814
	Rob Griffiths	732823
	Christine Costambeys.....	721820
	Bernie Watts	325231

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the above if you have a question or comment about their area of responsibility or you would like to be involved in that activity. If there is any other area of church life on which you would like information, please get in touch with the Church Manager and he will direct you to the most suitable contact. If you have any gifts or talents you would like to be used at All Saints' to the glory of God, please let us know!

Grapevine Extra: To suggest or request content for future issues, please contact: **Doreen Nightingale Tel: 01323 734440**
Email: dmnig36@bfinternet.com

Office Opening Times: The Church Office is open:-
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
MORNINGS ONLY—9am to 1pm

Visitors are welcome during this time

—BUT—

At any other time **an appointment is needed**

Tel: 01323 732823 **Email:** admin@allsaintseastbourne.com

Website: www.allsaintseastbourne.church

WELCOME to

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, EASTBOURNE

GRAPEVINE EXTRA

February—March 2018

giving you all the up-to-date news of what is happening
in All Saints' Church

Welcome to the All Saints' Church family. If you are new please do not hesitate to make yourself known to me or one of the staff team. If you have any questions the welcome team will be happy to help. Please help yourself to one of the welcome leaflets at the entrance to the Church and Centre. *Yours in Christ, Robert*

CHANGE - IN ALL AROUND I SEE - Robert Lovatt

I trust the new year has started well for you all. I was delighted with the support, quality and variety of our Christmas services which were such an encouragement. Thank you for all the hard effort, including the day of prayer we held at the beginning of the month. With a new year come new opportunities and that sometimes involves change.



How does one cope with change? Change is often very unsettling. It can be unpredictable. In national life we see change. Governments come and go. What will happen with Brexit? I have been reading a book about how an affluent family with children at private school finds their life uprooted when the husband dies and the wife is made bankrupt, unaware of the debts the husband had built up. The wife and their two children experience the indignity of bailiffs, losing their home and having to resettle in a rough housing estate. How should they rebuild their lives? Change can sometimes seem cruel.

Change can also be good and bring new opportunities. Persecution caused the early Christians to leave Judea and Jerusalem and thereby spread the good news of Jesus.

Even the church experiences change. Our anchor and foundation is of course the Lord Jesus. The PCC has had to deal with a few areas where we have had to make changes. After much discussion we have decided to sell 28 Desmond Road, the property where Ben and Emily lived. This was partly because of financial reasons – we had fallen below our minimum allowable reserves level. We are required to maintain a 3-month reserve of funds as a minimum to our unrestricted funds. We also

felt it was unlikely to be the sort of property we would need in the future. Where might we house a new youth worker should the need arise? Well we'd probably put them in Grassington Road. But what about the curate? The diocese is now providing housing for curates. Our new curate Jon may not live in Grassington Road (watch this space) because for a family with three young children it is a little small. We may buy a smaller flat in time to come but we also want to look at other options for capital projects such as resurfacing our car park area.

Another change concerns the 4pm service. Many of the families who came to that service have decided to come to the 10 am service. Part of the reason is that bonds of friendship have formed across the services and it is good for families to be together. As a consequence, attendance at 4pm has been erratic so we have decided to discontinue with this service for the time being. This may free up time for other possibilities on a Sunday afternoon.

I remain hugely optimistic for All Saints'. We have a very committed and able group of people within the congregation and there are lots of new initiatives coming to the fore. I went to the first Alpha evening which was most encouraging. Much of the change we foresee I'm sure will be for the good of the church which is why, in the title when quoting from the famous hymn, I missed out the word 'decay'. We're looking for growth and gospel opportunity.

HOPE EASTBOURNE 2018

Hope Together UK seeks to be a catalyst for local Christian mission to make Jesus known in word and action.

All Saints is supporting & joining in this initiative for Eastbourne.

- *The first major event will be on Good Friday when there will be a live transmission of the Wintershall Passion Play taking place 'live' in Trafalgar Square—**Who can you invite?***
- *On Sunday 13th May at 10.30am there will be a United Witness under the banner of Thy Kingdom Come at the Bandstand—**Will you be there?***
- *In September, All Saints', with the support of other churches, hopes to host a month of mission—**Will you start praying NOW!!***

FAMILY NEWS FROM KENYA - Mary & Paul Dalton

December 2017

We, Paul and Mary Dalton, have just returned from our annual visit to Kenya to our daughter Claire, son in law, Joel and 3 grandchildren. Joel has been teaching at St Andrews' Turi, an International school originally set up in 1931 by missionaries for their children but now takes children from Reception to 6th Form.

We spent our first Sunday in Kenya with Karen Terry and Vivian her Kenyan ward.

We received a warm welcome at Pastor Michael Kangere's church in the morning. Pastor Michael, of Bible Life Fellowship,



has been a tremendous help to Karen since 2013 with her previous and ongoing Missionary Visa application which allows her to continue living in Kenya.

Karen has recently become an Associate Missionary with the Church Missionary Society UK. She will receive training and support from the office in Nairobi to enable her



to continue working at 'Faith Ventures Christian Academy' where she is the Pastoral Care Worker providing care for individuals and groups. Vivian also attends this school where she is thriving under the strong Christian leadership.

Kenya, despite its shocking poverty and corruption, is still a beautiful country and its people, refreshingly, largely Christian.

Picture right:

Karen and Vivian with the School principal, Phoebe Gachau, and Ronald Amaganga, the School Administrator.



LIVING IN ACADEMIA! - Matthew Churchyard

Remember me? I'm Matthew Churchyard, in 2007 I moved to Eastbourne with my family and we began attending All Saints'. I was a regular member of the Sunday school and youth group until I moved to university.



For the past two and a half years, I've been living in High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire, undertaking a university degree course in video game design. Contrary to most courses of this ilk, mine is a Bachelor of Arts rather than science. So, as well as the technological stuff, it also teaches life drawing, sketching out levels for games, audio design and practical aspects such as running a business. All being well, this should lead on to a Masters degree and then a job in industry, which would be amazing to have!

There is a New Frontiers church a short walk outside the halls of residence which I occasionally visit. (I recommend their carol services – quite different to our own, they opened with African drumming!)

My flat, which I share with nine others, contains me, a regular at the nearby church who is relatively new to Christianity and a Baptist, which sounds like the start of a joke of some kind! The nearby church is a little different than what I'm used to at home, (they do like to wave their flags!), so it's often nice to come back and enjoy the familiarity of All Saints'.

This occurs all the more frequently around Christmas time, at which point I tend to make mad dashes across the country to join the choir for the carol service or help with some other event like the 'panto'. It keeps me out of trouble at least, for the most part!

With impending dissertation deadlines (along with a couple of other assignments), it would mean a lot if you would pray for me, to keep my stamina and focus up. When faced with so many different tasks at once it can be all too easy to panic and lose focus on what needs doing next, and getting my act together.

Knuckling down is something I think I'll always need to work on!

WHERE IS MY HOME? - Len and Wendy Coles (2018)

It is said that 'Home is where the heart is' but one's heart can be in many places at once. All the things one loves are not always in the same place!

Our 'home' was originally in South Africa. That is where we were born, were brought up, went to school and worked. We lived there happily for many years and watched our young family grow into adulthood.

In 2005 we had been talking about having a change to our somewhat humdrum lives. Our two children were quite independent by this stage, so we decided to volunteer to work with Operation Mobilisation (OM) as part of the refurbishing team on their newly acquired ship, renamed Logos Hope, which was then docked in Croatia. It had previously been an old car ferry. Years later, while working in Purley, we were overjoyed to have been able to visit the ship in London, which now takes on the role of visiting ports all over the world laden with Christian and other literature.

After our work on the ship ended, we went to England to visit our cousins in London. During the four months we spent exploring London, as well as Wales and Ireland, our cousins encouraged us to come and settle in the UK as they had done many years before. So off to Cape Town we went, organised our ancestral visas, packed up our home, and were back in the UK a few months later!

Our first UK 'home' was in Oxford. Then for eight years our 'home' was at an Abbeyfield Home for the Elderly in Purley, where we worked.

Two years ago, in our semi-retirement, we acquired our flat in Eastbourne making this our new 'home'.

Every year, or second year, we travel back to Cape Town, mainly to see our children and grandchildren as well as catching up with other family members and old friends. Our heart is certainly in this place.

We have just spent a month in Cape Town and very quickly it seemed that we had 'come home'. Len was soon busy getting through the list of DIY repair and renewal jobs that daughter, Laura and son, Timothy, had been saving up for him. Wendy was occupied with sewing needs and other domestic tasks. Even young James and Charlotte cot-



toned on and asked Granny and Grandad to fix broken toys or read them stories. We love to help the family and be part of their lives when we can, just as our parents helped us with our family all those years ago.

Cape Town is a beautiful city with the harbour in the foreground and Table Mountain behind, sometimes with its cloudy tablecloth draped over it when the wind blows. To walk leisurely along the beach is truly wonderful and brings back many memories from our younger days.



All too soon the weeks are gone and we have to leave this 'home' to go back 'home'! It is always an emotional experience and we hate to leave the family, yet we are glad to be 'home' for our heart is here also and we know this is where God has led us to be.

Thank you to all at All Saints' for such a warm welcome back. Being part of God's Christian family and knowing and doing His will is truly very rewarding.

This world is not our 'home' – we are just passing through – to our new spiritual 'home' that is being prepared for us – may our heart always be there, too!!

"THAT'S MY BOYS" - Peter Cooper

Have you ever been inspired by a throw away comment someone said to you? I remember skiing with a man and his two sons that I met on holiday in Switzerland. Full of enthusiasm we explored the more adventurous slopes and threw ourselves into it (literally at times). After we made it down our steepest slope yet, the dad of the family remarked "I bet God's watching us now and saying "That's my boys!". I laughed, but then saw that while he was grinning, he wasn't joking.

Remembering that always makes me smile because I find it hard to think of myself as bringing joy to God. My failures and the price God paid to forgive me makes me feel guilty and like a let-down. But I also know that my ski companion was onto something and his view of God as our Father is much more biblical and in keeping with a forgiving God than the one I'm prone to assuming must consider me a let-down.

In that one sentence, this man, presented God as a Father who looked on us with pride, not because of moral accomplishment or a brave act of evangelism, but because we were enjoying ourselves, enjoying life, sharing our joy with each other and that made Him happy.

Several years on I'm a father of two sons and I know it doesn't take much to feel proud of them. It's often simple things like playing Lego or watching them laugh at something on TV. Seeing them enjoying life makes me happy.

And it seems that parenthood brings a desire to show the world how wonderful your child is. Of course, the rest of the world won't share your strength of feeling but we share their little milestones nonetheless. Facebook is the most obvious facilitator, where parents seem oblivious to how boring it is to everyone else that their child has lost a tooth, etc. It's as though the blessing they are to us is too great to keep to ourselves. Incidentally my Nanna used to say it was vulgar to show off about your children but it's OK with grandchildren—(not sure how true that is!).

In God we have a Father who was a Father before he was anything else. Before creation he was a Father, and with the Holy Spirit he delights in his Son. His desire in creation was that the world should know Jesus. The world was made to need him, he was too much of a blessing to keep to Himself. So, as people made in his image, I am sure that parenthood is intended to reveal something of the way our heavenly Father feels towards Jesus. And by trusting in Jesus we have the right to call his Father, our Father, so becoming His children.

Like so many things in life, the human illustration points to a greater reality. If a far from perfect dad like me delights in the everyday things my sons do, how much more does our heavenly Father delight in our everyday moments, the times we chuckle, share a nice meal or appreciate good music. "That's my boys (and girls)!"