

SAINTS ALIVE

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALL SAINTS AND ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, KINGSTON UPON THAMES

Mr Turner was here

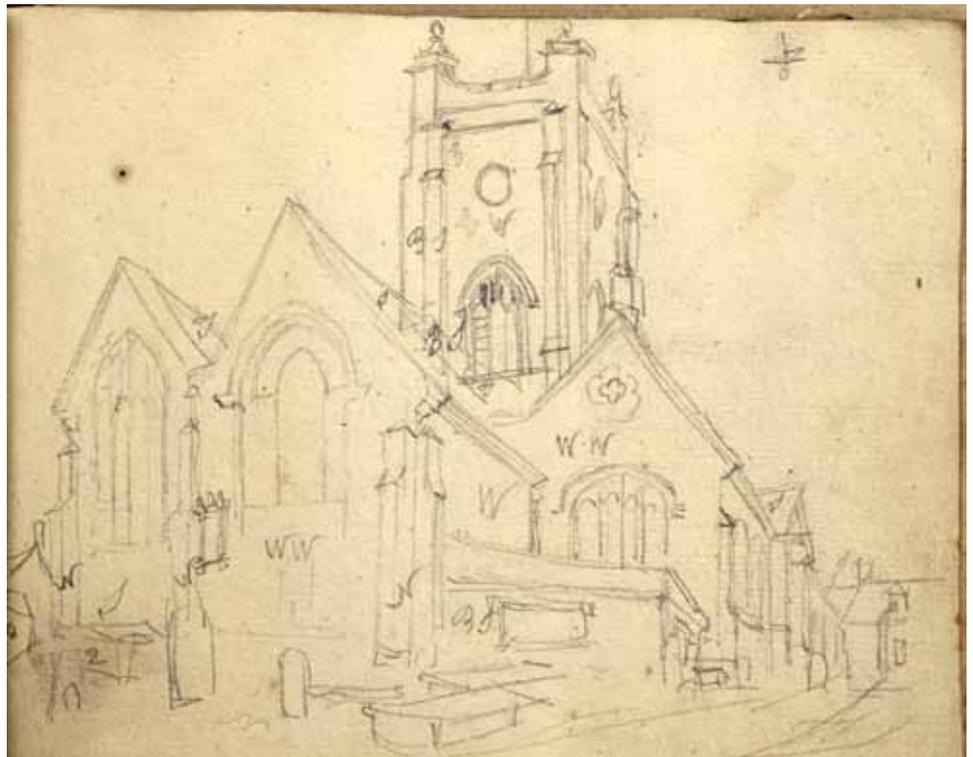
by | Alastair Deller

Early in September last year, while looking for some historical information, I keyed the search term “All Saints Church, Kingston” into Google. Having found what I wanted, I couldn’t resist the temptation to scroll down a bit further, and the name “JMW Turner” caught my eye.

This turned out to be a reference on the Tate Britain website to two Turner sketches: *All Saints’ Church, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, from the East End, with Separate Detail of the Weathervane and Kingston Bridge, Surrey, with All Saint’s Church, Kingston upon Thames, and Buildings on the Riverfront Downstream of the Bridge, Seen from the Hampton Wick Bank of the River Thames* drawn between 1789 and 1791.

Tantalisingly, the spaces where there should have been thumbnail pictures were blank with a note stating that, for copyright reasons, the pictures could not be shown. Tate Britain informed me that I would need to pursue my enquiries with the copyright holder, the Princeton University Art Museum in the USA. As far as I could discover, no-one at All Saints was aware of the existence of these sketches, which strengthened my resolve to track them down.

After fruitless enquiries with one of the Associate Directors at Princeton, I contacted Calvin D Brown, the Associate Director of Prints and Drawings, explaining the significance of these sketches to the All Saints community. To my delight, he responded immediately, attaching a thumbnail of the sketch of the east end. My elation turned to disappointment when I realised that this was actually a picture of a church in



Reproduced by kind permission of Princeton University Art Museum

Gainsborough, Lincolnshire. He then sent me thumbnails of Turner’s entire sketchbook, in which I finally found both the Kingston sketches.

The sketch of Kingston Bridge proved very cursory, only showing a rough outline of the church in the distance. However the drawing of the east end, while also only a sketch, was much more detailed. The Media Resources Associate at Princeton then kindly agreed to supply a high-resolution version of this sketch together with permission for its reproduction. Finally, three months after my original discovery, my quest was at an end.

It is fascinating to think that, some 225 years ago, one of this country’s greatest artists stood roughly where Memorial Square is today and admired and drew our wonderful church.

From the vicarage

All Saints

by | Revd Jonathan Wilkes



St John's

by | Revd Vicky Maunder

In his recent, excellent, book *Not in God's Name*, one of the things that Rabbi Jonathan Sacks outlines is a 400 year long process of secularisation. That, one by one, knowledge (in the form of science and philosophy), power (seen in the American and French revolutions), culture (as galleries and museums became alternatives to churches as places to encounter the sublime) and then morality (where traditional codes of ethics were replaced by the unfettered sanctity of the individual, autonomy and choice) were all secularised in the centuries since the Reformation. These are, Jonathan Sacks says, some of the greatest achievements of human civilisation, to be cherished and defended, but he goes on to say that they cannot answer the three questions that every reflective individual will ask at some time or other in her or his life: Who am I? Why am I here? How then shall I live?

I wondered if I saw a hint of how to approach those questions on a recent flight I took to Europe. Dotted about the aeroplane cabin were screens, which, having first shown a safety film, then ran a loop of pictures giving various pieces of information about the flight: the altitude, the speed, the temperature outside the plane, the time at our destination and so on. But it also showed us a map charting our progress, giving reference points to help us see where we were. I was intrigued by the choice of places that it made for southern England. They changed as we moved around but for a while, as we headed south towards the channel, the three places it specifically highlighted were Winchester, Runnymede and Chartwell. A rather odd selection! I wondered how these had come to be selected over others and presumed that they were places of interest because of the historic events or people that they were associated with - Winston Churchill at Chartwell, the Magna Carta at Runnymede and – **errantly** – Winchester as the place where Alfred, England's supposed first king, lived (because we all know that England's first king was Athelstan crowned in Kingston in 925AD...). But it was good to see an historic take on what was valuable (a different perspective might have chosen Bluewater, Thorpe Park and Croydon...) because our histories, corporate or personal, are one of the things that make us. Reflecting on our past, whether it be what happened this morning or decades ago, and seeking to understand it and learn from it, is essential if we are to shape and determine our future. "There is nothing noble in being superior to your fellows, true nobility is being superior to your former self" as Ernest Hemingway wrote or, as the Rabbis put it, "who is a hero? one who conquers himself". It's why most acts of worship begin with a look back at the past, an invitation to assess it, and, in offering repentance, an encouragement to learn from it. Whether you're a churchgoer or not, it's not a bad way to face the present and approach the future.

Jonathan

My husband and I celebrate our 10th wedding anniversary this August. With three young children to care for as well as demanding jobs, our relationship has taken rather a back seat in recent years. A common problem for many people in our busy 24/7 world, I'm sure. But the approaching anniversary has made me try and find a little time to pause and reflect. We have both grown and changed over the years. Have I accepted my husband for who he is and allowed him to become the person he can be? Has he done the same for me? Have we offered each other love and support that has enabled us to flourish and grow towards reaching our potential as human beings? Or have we held each other back?

I think a good image for marriage is a rainbow. Each half of the arch supports the other vitally and completely, and without the other it would collapse and yet there is space around each half. And I think each person in a marriage needs to maintain their own sense of self and their own space while supporting and connecting with the other.

This is what the spiritual writer Khalil Gibran is meaning, I think, when he writes of marriage in his book *The Prophet*: "Fill each other's cup but drink not from one cup" and "Let there be spaces in your togetherness".

DH Lawrence explores these ideas in his book *The Rainbow* and develops the image of the rainbow for a relationship by showing that beneath the arch created by a couple is space for a child to grow and be nurtured.

Rainbows are a beautiful, magical part of creation, that bring excitement, delight and a smile. "Wow, look Mummy, a rainbow!" my children say. And I think thinking of your marriage should elicit a similar response however many years after your wedding day it might be. "Wow, I'm married to X. How amazing! How blessed am I!" And of course rainbows are a sign of both the sun and the rain and the marriage vows are about being stronger together through all the joys, sorrows and challenges you face over the years, which is certainly not easy.

I'm fortunate that my marriage, so far, has been an arch of strength that our children can play beneath. I know others are not so fortunate. Marriage does not always provide the love and support it should and some marriages have to endure the most difficult of situations which they may not survive. And some, who want a partner, may never meet a person they want to share their life with.

In the Christian faith, in the book of Genesis in the Old Testament the rainbow is the sign of God's promise to his people of his commitment to them, of his love for them. It is a sign of hope after a difficult, destructive time. Whatever the hurts and challenges life throws at us we never have to face them alone. God is with us and he wants his children to flourish and to live richly and deeply. And marriage should enable that, not hold it back.

Vicky



July 30th to August 8th

The KWK Concert Series at All Saints Church

Korean classical music is very beautiful, but it sounds different from our Western classical traditions. It uses different instruments, another sense of rhythm and tonality, and grew from philosophical roots in shamanism and Confucianism. On Saturday, August 8th, there will be a rare opportunity to listen to an authentic Korean classical ensemble, SANI, at All Saints Church. They are famous in Seoul and throughout Korea, but almost unknown in this country. This will be their first appearance in the UK.

This concert will come at the end of an exciting and very unusual week of British, Korean and crossover classical music. Many young Korean musicians come to study Western music in London, and the series will feature three rising stars of the international concert platforms. Yoon-Seok Kim, well-known as a brilliant and thoughtful pianist, will give a lunchtime recital on Monday, August 3rd. Two young virtuosi, Grace Yeo (piano) and Marisol Lee (violin), will appear in an evening concert on Tuesday, August 4th.

On Thursday, August 6th, there is a “crossover” concert, featuring two Korean musicians, Hye-lim Kim (taegum – membrane flute) and Dennis Lee (changgu – Korean percussion), and two British musicians, Melanie Henry (saxophones) and Sally Mays (piano) in a programme that features several works written for these musicians. The date is significant. Seventy years ago, on August 6th, 1945, the first nuclear bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, the terrible event that brought the Second World War to an end and helped to bring about the independence of Korea.

The whole KWK festival celebrates seventy years of Korean independence. From this first nightmare of nuclear warfare grew the friendships, trade and warm relationships that exist in Kingston today. We celebrate and mourn for the past; and there will be a small ceremony in the interval of the concert to commemorate Hiroshima. But the series begins with a triumphant celebration of our friendship.

On Saturday August 1st, there will be a lunchtime recital and a major evening concert that will feature the Korean Catholic Church Choir, together with the outstanding British contemporary ensemble, Sounds Positive. The evening concert will contain new works by the leading British composers, Avril Anderson and David Sutton-Anderson, the joint directors of the series, as well as the chance to hear the pan’sori singer, Jonghyurk. A highlight will be a new choral work to celebrate a Korea Garden, inspired by the landscape gardener, Hwang Jihae, who provided a vision for the gardens surrounding All Saints Church, where the Coronation Stone will eventually be placed.

The whole series is not to be missed. Tickets can be purchased through the Rose Theatre’s Box Office or on line from our website: www.kingstonwelcomeskorea.org

The KWK Festival is the copyright of KW Ltd, an independent not-for-profit company, whose programme is managed by AI Arts Management Ltd. (“Arts Interlink International

Heritage and Learning at All Saints

Summer 2015 Activity Days

We will be running a series of activity days during the summer as part of the Thumbs Up It's Thursday scheme in Kingston. Activity days will run between 11am and 2.30pm and have a selection of activities, demonstrations and trails for visitors of all ages.

6th August – Medieval Madness

13th August – River Thames

20th August – All Sorts

We are looking for lots of volunteers to help with each of these event days. If you are interested in helping please contact Kate Kern at heritage@allsaintskingston.co.uk or give her a ring on 020 8541 5371.

A selection of this year's events so far ...

LiberTeas Magna Carta celebration

All Saints celebrated the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta on 14 June with a fantastic tea party and special peal of bells by our brilliant bellringers, pictured below.



Kingston Museum created a display about the history of Magna Carta with family activities. A team of volunteers supplied delicious cakes and ran the café on the day – a huge thank you to Iain and Janet, Paul, Carys, Jean, Rosemary, Beryl and Phil!

Crowns and Coronations

To celebrate All Saints' right royal history, families enjoyed a day of crown making over the Easter break. Visitors made a variety of crowns and tiaras, learnt about the British Crown Jewels and tested their detective skills with the



game "Whose Crown is it Anyway?" Even the staff got in on the act ...

Robin Hood Festival

All Saints Church ventured out to the Fairfield Recreation ground for the Robin Hood Festival. We joined medieval re-enactors and Kingston Museum, giving visitors the chance to decorate their own crowns before having their picture taken on the throne. Have a go archery was popular and families enjoyed seeing the knights battle it out in the arena!

Fire! Fire! Activity Day

All Saints is holding an activity day on 30th July to explore the church's fiery history! The London Fire Brigade will be doing hands on demonstrations with water pumps, there will be fire safety quizzes and activities and family trails around the church. Sadly, this special visit from Kingston Fire Service may well have taken place by the time Saints Alive hits the streets but readers might like to know something of the church's firefighting connection. Fire-fighting was a parish responsibility, and the fire "engine" (actually simply a water container on wheels) was kept first in the south chancel of All Saints Church and after 1825 in a special building on Church Street.



A "barrel" or "tub" appliance similar to the ones stored at All Saints Church Kingston upon Thames in the 17th Century.

We are very grateful to Michael Bissett Powell from the Fire Brigades of Surrey Preservation Trust, for kindly supplying the above picture which shows the type of barrel appliance that would have been kept in the church and for all the lovely images and information which helped to create a display on the day.

Things to do in the holidays

By | Emerald Sheldon



The Summer holidays are here ... six weeks is a long time to keep your brood entertained without breaking the bank. I can hear “I’m bored” resonating in my head already. I am hoping this article will give you some ideas of how to keep the holiday blues at bay, give you some quality time together and some ideas of how to get five minutes’ peace – or more!

Summer in London

If you want to experience London in the Summer, you can do it without spending more than your travel fare and a few coins for buskers– head to Southbank. Bring a picnic, there is an “epic” climbing playground suitable for older children, a landscaped grassy area underneath the London Eye– the train ride is exciting enough for the younger children. But once you are there, there are plenty of sculptures to climb on, a sandpit by the river Thames (outside the BFI) plenty of awesome street performers to keep you entertained. There is even a FREE 4D cinema experience – a hidden gem of London (it’s at the back of the Ticket Office of the London Eye, see the One Big Summer Guide at southbanklondon.com for all things South Bank during the summer – there are a lot of free events in here.

What if it rains? What if you’re stuck at home?

“Achieving for Children” have sent out a jam packed booklet with lots of ideas for getting out and about with your children. But what if it’s a typical British Summer and you can’t face getting wet again?

The “I’m bored” jar

Make an “I’m bored” jar – this is a great idea, it may take a little bit of preparation, but fill a Kilner jar (or alternative large jam jar) with strips of paper with different ideas on for when the children say “I’m bored”. Here are some to get you started.

Some can be simple: playing hopscotch; building dens at home – then watch a movie in them, in your pjs; it makes it a bit more exciting than slumping on the sofa; chalking on the pavement then hosing it off is always huge fun. Turn it into car washing for a couple of hours.

Some more time consuming: bake cookies for your elderly neighbour; make “perfume” – I used to do this with my friends in the summer, sometimes ending up a bit more George’s marvellous medicine than perfume! Try to persuade your children to sort through their toys/ clothes and make some pocket money by selling what they don’t want. You might even find Angellica Bell stopping by (see her Surrey Comet column of 17 July)! Making a time capsule to bury in your garden (collecting items, writing letters, making drawings) can be a whole summer-holiday-long project.

Your best friends in the summer will become the 99p store – great for craft supplies and accessories – and www.pinterest.com which has thousands of ideas for all age groups, from science experiments to crafts of all kinds.

For younger children, a wall planner to which you add activities and days out, helps with the inevitable, “what are we doing next?” questions. Don’t forget a countdown calendar for yourself – that first day back at school will come along all too quickly – so enjoy! And Good Luck!

Banquet at All Saints

Banquet Records' founder, Jon Tolley, talked to Saints Alive about why he is happy to stage a range of Banquet's concerts at All Saints Church. Jon says, "Banquet, and therefore I, personally, have always been involved with the local music community and we aim to provide a variety of different music events. All Saints was the missing link in Kingston – it provides a beautiful setting and wonderful environment for those who make beautiful music. Recent concerts at the newly renovated All Saints have been brilliant and we're so grateful to the church for trusting us and enabling us to provide a safe environment for people of all ages, but particularly youngsters in and around Kingston."

Jon was elected as Liberal Democrat councillor for Grove Ward following the recent by-election held on Thursday 16 July.



A recent concert at All Saints Church, Kingston, featuring Lucy Rose.
Photo credit: James Perou

The narrative - Words on the Way

by | Martin Corner

What kind of thing is Christianity? This isn't a question we often ask, and it certainly has many answers. It's a message. It's a faith. It's a moral teaching. It's a personal relation with Jesus Christ. It's a community called the Church.

All those answers have validity. But at its most basic, Christianity is a narrative. It tells a story. The creeds are narratives: 'he came down from heaven... was born... was crucified... on the third day he rose.' The gospels too, Christianity's core texts, are primarily narratives, accounts of what Jesus did before being accounts of what he taught. Even the Church's year is built as a narrative, from Advent to Ascension.

In being grounded in a narrative Christianity continues the tradition of Judaism, where God identifies himself in narrative terms: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage" (Exodus 20, 2). Both Judaism and Christianity are in this very unlike Islam, which is grounded in a summons to obedience, and Buddhism, which is a teaching of wisdom.

So what does this say about Christianity's relation to us? It means that the point of connection is the story that it tells, not philosophical or theological abstractions. They follow on, but as implications of the story, which is the first thing. Christianity will work for you only if its narrative connects with your narrative, with the story that is your living. Jesus himself told a story: the Kingdom glimpsed, the Kingdom approached in love and agony, the Kingdom fulfilled. If that story finds an echo in you, then Christianity will make some sense.

Stories, however, need to be told and retold; otherwise they die and are forgotten. They live in tellings and retellings. And not all tellings work for everyone. There is a very dubious retelling of the Christian story which features an angry God who had to be bought off from damning us by

the sacrifice of his son in blood and torment. It still gets passed around.

But that is only one retelling. There is another about the way our steps are redirected by a glimpse of the Kingdom. About how our story can change. About a man who had that vision and was prepared to make it real in death. That is a much more remarkable story.

ASK Topical Lunches Autumn 2015

Every Third Thursday of the month - All Saints Parish
Church, Kingston Market Place
Enjoy lunch – Discuss Kingston's Topical Issues

Thursday 17 September

Keeping Kingston safe and secure

Borough Commander, Chief Superintendent Glenn Tunstall

Thursday 15 October

All Saints' Frobenius organ

Stephen Westrop, All Saints organist

Thursday 19 November

The Thames and the Hogsmill - Flood risks and defence measures

Environment Agency speaker TBA

Lunch from 12:00 noon – Sandwiches at
the new *ASK East End Cafe*; or bring your own.
Introduction by speaker 1:00 – 1:15 pm Questions,
comments, discussion. Finish 1:45 pm

For further information, contact Leslie Packer
leslie@packerhome.fsnet.co.uk or 020 8549 1960

August Events

July 30-August 8 Kingston welcomes Korea : see p. 3

Thursday 6th All Saints: Heritage Activity Day – Medieval Madness

Thursday 13th All Saints: Heritage Activity Day – River Thames

Wednesday 19th All Saints: 3pm “Be a Friend” Tea Party

Thursday 20th All Saints: Heritage Activity Day – All Sorts

Saturday 22nd All Saints: 12noon Wedding of Rhiannon Lloyd and Jack Balfour

Sunday 23rd All Saints: 9.30am Baptism of Elliott Charles Selves; 2.30pm Blessing of Deryck Van Skenderen and Bronwen De Klerk

September Events

Tuesday 1st All Saints: 7.30pm Thames Youth Orchestra concert

Sunday 6th All Saints: 9.30am Baptism of Tabitha Turk

Thursday 10th All Saints: Heritage Open Day

Friday 11th All Saints: Heritage Open Day; 7.30pm International Choir evening

Saturday 12th St John's: Wedding of Daniel Glewis and Joanna Powlett

Sunday 13th All Saints: Heritage Open Day

Thursday 17th All Saints: Topical Lunch from 12noon: Keeping Kingston safe and secure, Borough Commander, Chief Superintendent Glenn Tunstall; **Church grounds**, all day: Kingston Public Health; 7.30pm Mosaic – music & spoken word performance

Sunday 20th to Saturday 26th St John's: One Community One Week

Monday 21st All Saints: 11am Crown Court Service

Thursday 24th All Saints: 7.30pm Biannual AGM

Saturday 26th All Saints: Wedding of Rick Barrington and Bidy Lampard

Saturday 26th St John's: 10.30am-2.30pm Book Fair with Café serving Brunch and Cakes

Sunday 27th St John's: 12noon Baptism of Rosa Corney

Monday 28th-Friday 9th October All Saints: Thames Valley Art Exhibition

October Events

Thursday 1st St John's: St John's School Harvest Service

Saturday 3rd All Saints: 11am Wedding of Robert Redmond and Mercy Komba

Sunday 4th St John's: 10am Harvest Festival

Monday 5th All Saints: 1.15pm Lunchtime Concert

Saturday 10th All Saints: Mind Festival

Monday 12th All Saints: 1.15pm Lunchtime Concert

Thursday 15th All Saints: Topical Lunch from 12noon: All Saints Frobenius organ, Stephen Westrop, All Saints organist

Monday 26th All Saints: 1.15pm Lunchtime Concert

Thursday 29th All Saints: Heritage Activity Day

Saturday 31st All Saints: 7.30pm Concert – Christopher Sayles (piano) playing Beethoven

Saturday 31st St John's: 10.30am to 2.30pm Book Fair and Church Café

17th October – Christmas All Saints: Cards for Good Causes trading

All-Year-Round Events

All Saints: The church is open daily and visitors are welcome.

On weekdays and Saturdays from

11am to 12.15pm trained listeners are available

to offer pastoral support to people who

wish to speak with someone in confidence.

Coffee is available Monday to Saturday.

Little Saints toddler group is on Tuesdays & Fridays.

St. John's: The church is open for Little Groovers toddler group on Tuesdays.

All Saints

Market Place, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey KT1 1JP

Sunday Services

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Sung Eucharist (with Children's Church) Children leave after the first hymn to go into the children's workshops in the choir vestry or chapel, The 6+ group rejoins the congregation at the Peace, the age 5 and under group at Communion.

At the door there are busy bags for babies and very young children, and folders for older children who do not wish to go into the workshops.

6pm Sung Evensong

Weekday Communion Services

Tuesday 12 noon Common Worship

Wednesday 12 noon Common Worship

Thursday 10.30am Book of Common Prayer

Friday 12.30pm Silent Prayer

St John's

Grove Lane, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2SU

Sunday Services

1st Sunday of the month: 10am Family Communion

2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month: 10am Parish Communion with children's church

3rd Sunday of the month: 9am Holy Communion
10am Sacred Space with children's church



All Saints

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www.allsaintskingston.co.uk www.WhereEnglandBegan.co.uk

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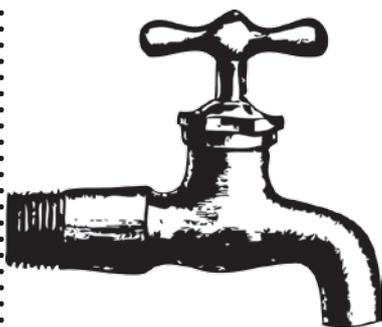
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All Saints & St John's are part of an Anglican Team with St John's Kingston Vale and members of the Local Ecumenical Project in Kingston Town Centre with their partners Kingston United Reformed Church, Eden Street, & Kingston Baptist Church, Union Street.

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DEADLINE FOR NOV/DEC/JAN 2016 IS 5TH OCT



Semi-retired Plumber
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Paul:
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WE ♥ OUR COMMUNITY

ONE COMMUNITY, ONE WEEK

is back!

20-27TH SEPTEMBER 2015

Get to know your neighbours and get fundraising! Why not: host a tea party or teach your friends how to bake? Do a sponsored walk or give up your latte for a week? Accept the challenge and see just how inventive you can be and how much you can raise in just one week for St John's Church and Hall regeneration. Get involved!

Plus why not join us for a fun morning at St John's Church, Grove Lane for the:

BIG BOOK FAIR BRUNCH
Saturday 26th September
10am-2pm

The fundraising team will be running the kitchen at the church book sale and adding a delicious twist, serving all your brunch favourites. Books and brunch on a Saturday?

What's not to love!

#OCOW