

**ST PETER'S CHURCH
BRACKLEY**

"Loving God, loving each other, loving Brackley"



The Vicar writes.....



In 2023, St Peter's will mark 800 years since the first vicar was installed at the church. This offers a natural opportunity for thanksgiving for the past and recommitment for the future, and also provides a chance to host events that raise the profile of our Saviour and our church in the Brackley community.

In advance of these 'Octocentenary Celebrations', we would like to make our fabulous church building even more fit for purpose as a centre of worship, as well as more warm and welcoming to outsiders – and all the while maintaining its structural integrity.

Therefore, at the beginning of September, the PCC met for a planning morning attended by our Archdeacon, Richard Ormston. We considered five areas of work covering *structural* (roofing), *functional* (audio and visual), and *aesthetic* (lighting and painting) options for improving the building.

It was unanimously decided that we should proceed immediately with the structural and functional items in view, whilst the aesthetic improvements could be pursued subject to cost and diocesan permission. If you would like any more detail on the above, please speak to a member of the PCC. For now though, I wanted to relay this decision to the wider St Peter's family via the magazine, and to address some questions it may prompt.

Where will the money come from? Funds are due to be drawn both from Rosemary Miles' exceedingly generous legacy (received at the end of 2019) and from our Church House Fund, although both will retain substantial sums in light of the current financial uncertainty.

What is the timeframe? The repair to the north nave roof (you will have noticed the exterior scaffolding) was finished in September. The upgrade to the sound system and fitting of a fixed projector and motorised screen are due to take place in the first week of November. The installation of new lighting and the repainting of the church interior would likely not happen until April-May 2022.

What help is needed?

1. **Volunteers.** We need 5-10 people to be trained up to operate the new audio-visual system. Perhaps you don't like the idea of serving upfront in church, but you would be quite happy sitting behind a laptop. If so, I would love to hear from you, even if you're unsure. There will be a training session at 4pm on Thursday 5th November at St Peter's. No

matter if that is inconvenient: there will be other opportunities to learn, so please get in touch regardless.

2. **Feedback.** The projector and screen will be used at all sorts of future events but I would like to know how those attending church in person feel about their use at the current 9:30am service. The screen could be fully retracted behind the chancel arch, or brought down for all or part of the service to help people follow the liturgy and Bible readings at a time when we cannot hand out service sheets.
3. **Prayer.** Please join in praying that all of this work would have a lasting impact for Christ's kingdom and further our vision to grow the church in number and in depth over the coming years as we seek to love God, love each other and love Brackley.

Finally, Marion Jones has sadly had to relinquish her PCC, sacristan and Junior Church responsibilities for health reasons. However, I'm thrilled that she has been recognised by the diocese, with Bishop Donald Allister granting her the title of Reader Emeritus in September. Let me take this opportunity to thank Marion for her conscientious, tireless and sacrificial service in St Peter's over many years, and also for the warm support she has given me and my family since we arrived last year. Thank you!

Rich Duncan



CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

This year Samaritan's Purse is offering you the option of either donating a shoebox in the usual way via St. Peter's or of selecting gifts online for Samaritan's Purse to pack for you.

Details of this online scheme at Samaritans-purse.org.uk

If you are donating via St. Peter's, shoeboxes will need to be at the church by **Sunday 8th November.**

Please note that due to current restrictions the church is open only on Wednesday morning 11-12 and Sunday morning 9-11

New Audio - Visual system for St Peter's Brackley

The PCC agreed at its September meeting to replace the 15 year old analogue sound system and the unreliable projector and self assembly screen.

The new system will provide improved audio and visual and will be largely hidden when not in use. The overall cost of the installation will be about £25,000.

The new digital system will deliver improved clarity and frequency response to give better speech and music. Every microphone will be tuned to the same high quality and each speaker equalized for its environment. As the building is very resonant a speaker delay will be used.

The system is simple to operate with presets for regular services or events. For more complex events the system can be controlled remotely by iPad/Tablet.

There will be a stagebox to the north of the chancel for the connection of guitars, keyboard, vocal mics etc.

A loop system for hearing aid users, to BS code of practice, will be installed and it will cover the whole church.

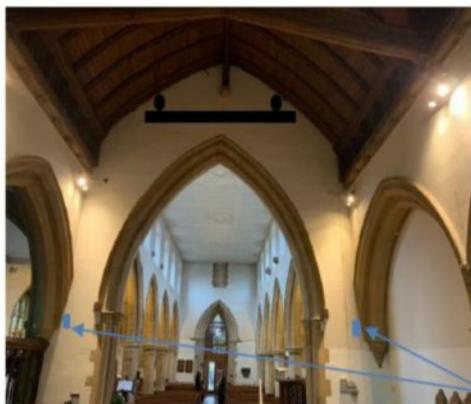
The projection screen will be lowered from behind the chancel arch for use and may be retracted when not required. The projector will be mounted high up on the north wall of the nave.

The system will be installed, and the old wiring removed in the first week of November this year.

Further details are available from members of the BDM committee: Rich Duncan, John Carter, Bob Israel, Val Lynam, Geoff Ball or John MacMahon.



Showing projection screen when in use
And location of projector



Showing projection screen when stored



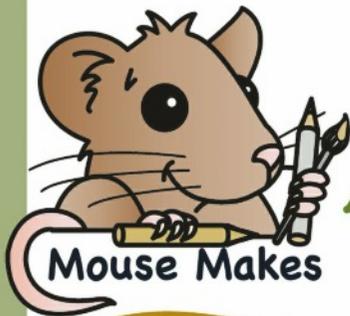
Location of speakers in chancel



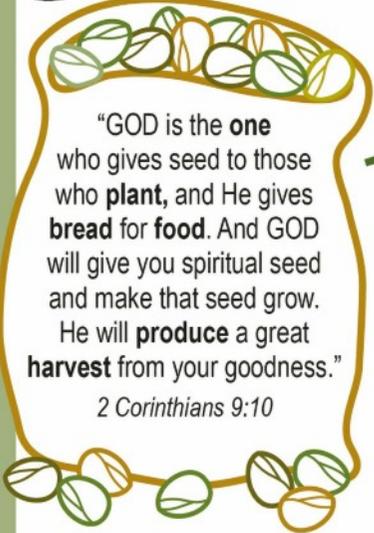
Locations of nave speakers



Speaker dimension 328x198x190

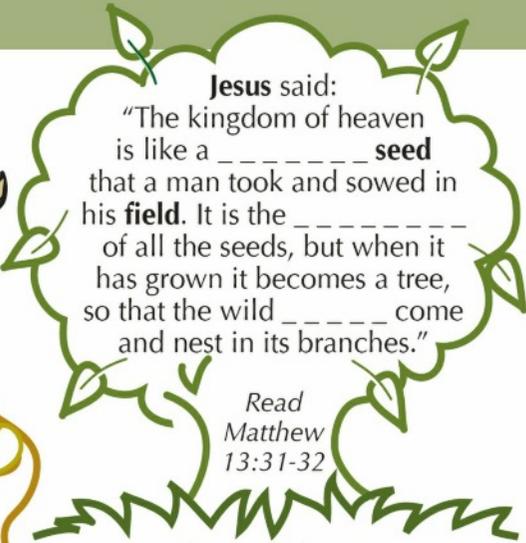


Mouse Makes



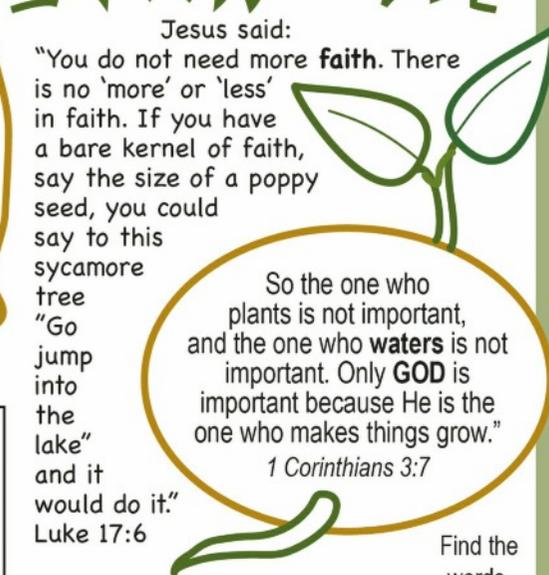
"GOD is the one who gives seed to those who **plant**, and He gives **bread** for **food**. And GOD will give you spiritual seed and make that seed grow. He will **produce** a great **harvest** from your goodness."

2 Corinthians 9:10



Jesus said:
 "The kingdom of heaven is like a _____ **seed** that a man took and sowed in his **field**. It is the _____ of all the seeds, but when it has grown it becomes a tree, so that the wild _____ come and nest in its branches."

Read
 Matthew
 13:31-32



Jesus said:
 "You do not need more **faith**. There is no 'more' or 'less' in faith. If you have a bare kernel of faith, say the size of a poppy seed, you could say to this sycamore tree "Go jump into the lake" and it would do it!"
 Luke 17:6

So the one who plants is not important, and the one who **waters** is not important. Only **GOD** is important because He is the one who makes things grow."

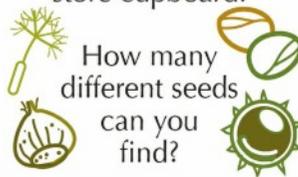
1 Corinthians 3:7

Find the words in **bold** on this page in the word search

Look out for seeds in the park and garden and in your kitchen store cupboard.



How many different seeds can you find?



H A R V E S T W O E S
 F I A F T P L A N T B
 O F A I T H A T E E R
 O O J E S U S E E D E
 D E U L O U G R O W A
 P R O D U C E S G O D



Edith Cavell, nurse



Edith Cavell is a good saint for NHS workers this year: she cared for the sick despite the danger to her own safety.

Edith was a vicar's daughter from Swardeston in Norfolk, where she was born in 1865. She became a governess, but her heart was for nursing, so she went on to train at the London Hospital, before nursing in various hospitals such as St Pancras and Manchester.

When Edith was 42, she decided to go abroad, and was appointed matron of a large training centre for nurses in Brussels. She was still there seven years later, when the First World War broke out and German troops invaded Belgium on their way to Paris and the Channel Ports.

Edith's nursing school became a Red Cross hospital, and she turned down the opportunity to return to the safety of England. Instead, her nurses tended wounded soldiers from both German and Allied armies.

Sadly, in 1915, when the Germans began their occupation of Brussels, they took a dim view of Edith's work. But they would have been even more unhappy had they known she was helping to smuggle 200 British soldiers across the border into the Netherlands!

Finally, the Germans arrested Edith in August 1915, and put her into solitary confinement. They tricked her into confessing to a charge which carried the death penalty. But Edith refused to show either regret at what she had done, or any fear or bitterness towards her captors.

On 11th October 1915, the night before her execution, Edith was visited by the Anglican chaplain to Brussels, the Revd Stirling Gahan. Together they said the words of *Abide with Me*, and Edith received her last Holy Communion.

She told Gahan: "I am thankful to have had these ten weeks of quiet to get ready. Now I have had them and have been kindly treated here. I expected my sentence and I believe it was just. Standing, as I do, in view of God and eternity, I realise that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness to anyone."

Edith was shot by a firing squad next day, on 12th October 1915.

After the war her body was exhumed and buried in Norwich Cathedral. Her memorial service in Westminster Abbey attracted thousands. A commemorative statue of her stands near Trafalgar Square.



Well done to Lynne Gibson for the 2020 danceathon (this year by facebook and zoom) which raised the amazing sum of £616. Well done, also to all who bravely took part. The proceeds are to be shared between St. Peter's and the new Brackley Medical Centre.

Remembrance Sunday bookings

If we are still allowed to meet in person, St Peter's will have a 10:30am Remembrance service on Sunday 8th November. Given the popularity of this service and our current reduced capacity we are asking everyone who would like to come to reserve their spot on a first-come-first-served basis by emailing administrator@stpetersbrackley.org.uk. Thanks for your understanding and do spread the word, Rev. Rich Duncan.

If you have enjoyed this short online edition of the current magazine, you can purchase the full 20 page printed edition for the modest sum of 40p.

The magazine is available at Jems on the Market Place. If you have an annual subscription you can have delivered to your door at no extra cost monthly.

If you would like to take out an annual subscription for home delivery please email Marilyn Israel at

marilynisrael17@gmail.com