

South Wigston Methodist Church

The Oracle



Remembrance Sunday

12th November 2023

Cover picture: South Wigston War memorial from artwork by young people on the footbridge over the railway from Kirkdale Road to the Fairfield estate.

Our Mission Statement

The people of South Wigston Methodist Church are called to live the good news of God's love through open hearts, open minds and open doors.

We strive to be a place where understandings of Jesus Christ can flourish.

We're called to be good neighbours to people in need, to challenge injustice, and to meet regularly for prayers, singing and learning.

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One of the ways in which we seek to put this mission statement into practice is to ensure that our church is a safe place for all who use it by following the safeguarding policies and practices of the Methodist Church. Our church's safeguarding policy is on the noticeboard in the lounge.

The Safeguarding officer is Margaret Edwards, with Mary Bryceland.

South Wigston Methodist Church
Blaby Road, South Wigston LE18 4PB
www.swmchurch.org.uk

Minister: Rev. Frances Ballantyne (Day off - Friday)
0116 277 3631 frances.ballantyne@methodist.org.uk

Deacon Sharon Dilley (Day off Friday)
0116 277 0317 sharondilley@hotmail.co.uk

Senior Steward: Mary B. 0116 281 2625
Leicester Trinity Circuit, Charity registration number 1129943

Editor: Mary B. contact: pmbry@gmail.com 07891 917768
Contributions always welcome.

Worship in November

Sunday 5th 10.15 Jo Kay
Followed by LWT planning meeting

Sunday 12th 10.00 Remembrance Sunday

The service of Holy Communion will be led by
Rev. Liam Dacre-Davis.

At about 10.45 Liam and others will leave to attend the Act of
Remembrance at the War Memorial.

Mary will continue worship with those who remain in church.

Sunday 19th 10.15 Richard Cawthorn
Followed by faith lunch – please bring some food to share.

Sunday 26th 10.15 Café-style worship led by the local worship team



**Bible
Society**

**Coffee morning Saturday 11th
November 10 to 12 at our church**

Pastoral visitors' meeting Tuesday 7th November 1pm

Christmas

**Preparing for the Church Christmas Fair to be held on Saturday 2nd
December**

Gaynor is collecting items for her tombola stall.

Donations of toys, jigsaws, books, cakes, mince pies, preserves etc will be
welcomed for the usual stall.

The Church Christmas card – please send or give your greetings to Brenda
brenda.kind@btopenworld.com 0116 278 2684

As last year the greetings will form a special feature in the December Oracle.

The deadline is Sunday 24th November



A message from Deacon Sharon

As we enter November, the clocks have gone back, everything seems just a bit darker. Some have just celebrated Halloween, a festival which seems to grow and grow in popularity each year but is a celebration of darkness. It's not long now until Bonfire night, a time of light but commemorating a dark period in history, the failure of the gunpowder plot, which was designed to reestablish the place of the Catholic Church in this country. All that darkness even before we watch the news and the unfolding horror in Israel and Palestine and not forgetting the other conflicts and natural disasters around the world that have fallen from the news headlines, including the war in Ukraine.

The world can seem a very dark place.

BUT following Halloween we have All Saints and All Souls days – remembering both those who have been specially honoured by the Church for their work and witness and then a day to remember all those who have died in faith and are now in the full presence of God.

We thank God for all those who have gone before us, both the well-known and also our friends and family, for the example they have set us and the difference they have made in this world. Through them the light of Christ has shone through, things have changed and we see that God is faithful throughout the generations.

Our part, is to continue to pray for world situations and for those close to us, to be the answer to our own prayers as much as we can and to continue to let the light of Christ shine through us.

By the end of the month the Christmas lights will be up and alight, a reminder that the HOPE of Christ, for the whole world, is never far away.

Sharon

The Church family in November

Happy Birthday to

18th Mariam – our sponsored child will be 15
20th Trevor 22nd Debbie 30th Zahne

Happy anniversary to Janice and David who celebrate their 55th anniversary on 23rd

Church Flowers If you would like to have flowers in church to celebrate a special occasion, or in memory of someone, please contact Margaret E. 0116 278 6616.

5th 12th Janice for Les
19th Brenda for Alan 26th Arthur and Martin



Thank you for your donations for Mariam and her family in Burkina Faso.

We support them via Compassion.

Her latest letter is on the noticeboard and includes the news that Mariam's maternal grandmother has died, and the happy news that she has a new baby brother called Karim.

Wigston Food Bank (SW Congregational Church)

Organised by the Lions Clubs International (Oadby & Wigston branch), this is a self referral food bank. If you need help, you can just turn up, bring photo ID, proof of address, your own shopping bags (or trolley), and the suggested donation of £1.20. You will be provided with two bags of food for you and your family. **November dates: Mondays 13th and 27th**

Commonwealth War Graves in Wigston Cemetery

At the last meeting of the Greater Wigston Historical Association Peter Cousins announced that, at long last, there is a sign at the entrance to the cemetery.



This photo shows a group of World War 2 comonwealth war graves in the cemetery. Others from both World Wars are to be found throughout the cemetery.

Silent Remembrance by Mavis Mitchelmore

What memories pass across our minds
As we stand in silent remembrance?
Maybe resurrecting bygone thoughts
From deep in our subconscious.

Perhaps we remember people long gone,
That were close to us in life.
Or those who fell in the two great wars,
Who died in the midst of strife.

Perhaps our thoughts are happy ones,
And span our childhood years.
Where friendships formed were lasting,
No heartaches or shedding of tears.

When all our thoughts were innocent,
No malice, spite or greed.
The games we played were just for fun,
Disregarding faith or creed.

Bur now we may be forgiven
For remembering those afar.
And see the plight of nations
Divided by faith and war.

Innocents caught up in the struggle,
Forced to flee and roam.
No relief from disease or suffering,
No food, no crops, no home.

Close to home are families,
Suffering from poverty and strife.
Whilst others live in comfort and peace,
Secure in their love of life.

Let us Christians reflect for a moment:
Of a happening so long ago,
When a baby was born in Bethlehem,
His life, for love, to forgo.

Nations have different religions,
Different cultures, clothes and food.
But all people here upon this earth
Are equal in the eyes of their God.

So as we stand in silent remembrance,
Remember how grateful to be.
That we are able to see and speak,
And all our minds are free.

News from Aigburth

In previous Oracles I mentioned that MHA Aigburth's gardens were part of the judges routes across the Borough for both East Midlands in Bloom and, for the first time, Britain in Bloom.

You may have seen that the Borough won Gold for the 13th consecutive time for East Midlands in Bloom. They also won Silver Gilt for Britain in Bloom.

Marilyn and I attended the Pride of the Borough celebrations at The Oasis Centre, Oadby Baptist Church – their garden was also part of the judging routes.

We were delighted to receive, on behalf of Aigburth, one of 3 Judges Discretionary awards which was shared with Nova Laboratories, Gloucester Crescent.



Britain in Bloom ~ Judges Discretionary Award

“There were many horticultural highlights on the tour but Aigburth Home for Supported Living garden was right up there. Marilyn, the volunteers and the residents have produced a horticultural haven.

The horticultural standard was surpassed when we went to Nova Laboratories. Richard, Mark and his team had produced a garden of the highest quality and a place of tranquillity for the workers to take a break from their important work. Their attention to detail was second to none and this was typified by the twisted willow trees.

Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust

Ride and Stride day September 9th

This was the hottest day of the year, not a day you would choose to go for a walk. However, well done to Janet, Sylvia and Brenda who raised just over £300 between them. Half of this, £150.75, comes back to our church.

We signed in 10 walkers from other churches, with some in the afternoon, when the temperature was over 30 degrees!

An Enjoyable Evening

The Churches Together Beetle Drive was a very enjoyable evening and very noisy at times. There were 20 taking part with 5 tables of 4 players.

We started off with members from our own churches, but we were soon making new friends when we moved to different tables as the game progressed.

The winner won chocolates and the booby prize was a scented candle for the loser to find her way.

We then had a faith supper and time to socialize.

£50 has been sent to Helping Hands and £50 to Rainbows.

QUIZ

The present quiz on SURNAMENES ends on Sunday November 5th, this is in aid of The Framework Knitters Museum. My next quiz will be on PLACES IN THE U K, this will be in aid of Church funds and is now ready. *Brenda*

Greater Wigston Heritage Centre Afternoon Talk Thursday 9 November

The talk is called: The Witches Of Wigston

Speaker: Our Bulletin and Book Editor Steve Marquis



£4 per person



Start time 3pm, access from 2.30pm.

To book your place/s petercousins2021@gmail.com

THE GREATER WIGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2024 CALENDAR NOW AVAILABLE

 THE GREATER WIGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY 
2024 CALENDAR

Ian Ellis, Milkman, Winslow Drive, 1986 St. Wistan's Church, Bull Head Street, Wigston Magna

The Greater Wigston Historical Society was formed in 1980 by Duncan Lucas and a group of keen local historians. The Society meets monthly except for July. In August we have an outing to visit places of historical interest, whilst the other 10 meetings are held at:
The Menphys Hub, Bassett Street, South Wigston, Leicester LE18 4PE
Open at 6.45pm for meetings to start at 7.15pm

For details please see our web site.
www.wigstonhistoricalsociety.co.uk
Contact by email: chairman@wigstonhistoricalsociety.co.uk

**Each Month Has Historical
Pictures Of Wigston From Our Archive**

IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT

£6 per copy

**Available from the Greater Wigston Heritage Centre
Station Road, Wigston (Next to the Swimming Baths)**

Open on Fridays 10am till 2pm

**Or Call 07702 127313 to arrange
collection from Wigston Magna**



THE GREATER WIGSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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AN INDEPENDENT SOCIETY WITH NO AFFILIATION WITH THE LEICS. COUNTY COUNCIL

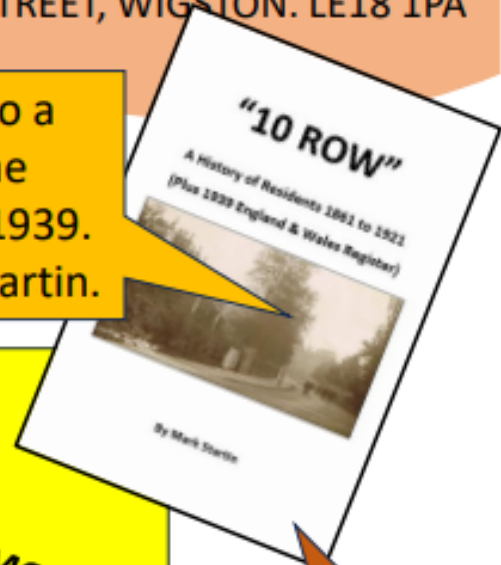


**FREE
PARKING**

"10-ROW" BOOK LAUNCH **FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2023**

WIGSTON LIBERAL CLUB, BULL HEAD STREET, WIGSTON. LE18 1PA

A unique and fascinating insight into a part of Wigston history revealing the lives of people between 1861 and 1939. Researched and written by Mark Startin.



Exhibitors Booked So Far
GWHS
Wigston Civic Society
Aylestone Journeys Into The Past
Genealogy Research
Belgrave Heritage Trust
South Wigston Model Railway Club

**MORE TO
COME.....**

**£10 per
copy**

Timetable

6.45 pm General Admission
7.30 pm Presentation & Launch
8.15 pm Book signing & Sales
9.30 pm CLOSE



**BAR - DRINKS
AVAILABLE**
**Free Admission
Donations
accepted**

Regular events at church

Tuesdays 2 to 4 Knit & natter ~ everyone welcome, even if you don't knit. Good company, a warm space and a cuppa.

Tuesday evenings Wigston & District Male Voice Choir rehearsal. New members welcome – just drop in.

<https://wigstonmalechoir.org>

Wednesdays 6.00pm Gaynor Merry's weight loss group 07977 868824 gaynor.merry@ntlworld.com

Saturday morning coffee 9.30 - 11.30 come along and have a bit of company. Home-made cakes are usually served.

Saturday morning Walking group (non-church) The group meets at 9.15 and sets off at 9.30 for a walk of up to 1 hour returning to church for coffee and chat.

Cost 40p per week. Mary B. and Sue C. are regular walkers – please ask them for more details.

Newspaper collection – just a reminder that the Male Voice Choir is still collecting newspapers which are sold to raise money for various charities. Please put your papers in the room off the prayer chapel.

Food Bank – donations are always required especially tinned vegetables, fruit etc. and dried goods. There is a box in the lounge with further information.

Stamps for RNIB – please trim your stamps leaving 1 cm gap all round and divide into UK and foreign stamps. There is a box in the lounge.

Christmas Fair

Saturday 2nd December

10 to 12

Tombola Cakes Toys

This & that Books

Hot chocolate Tea Coffee

Mince pies & cakes

And open in the afternoon for



Christmas Capers
South Wigston

Saturday 2nd December

LIGHT SWITCH ON 5.30 PM
SANTAS GROTTO @ ELLIOTT HALL

40 CRAFT & GIFT STALLS
STREET ENTERTAINMENT
BILLY BATES FUNFAIR
STEAM ENGINE/MUSIC ORGAN
TRANSFORMERS
POLICE/FIRE DISPLAY
LIVE MUSIC & DANCE
BIRDS OF PREY
CHILDREN SNOW GLOBE
HOT FOOD, LATE NIGHT SHOPPING
& MUCH MORE!
FREE PARKING

STARTS 1 PM

South Wigston
Gatby & Wigston
SUPPORTING **LOROS**
Specialist Care for Leicestershire, Leicestershire & Rutland