

# The Beacon

Newsletter of St John's Church, Worksop

Issue 4

September 2024

## Time to Celebrate!

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September marked the end of a project that had started some three years previously when we learned that the church spire was in a very poor condition and there were alarming photographs showing damage.

A development group (PDG) was set up to raise funds: from church members and church charities. Once estimates for the work were received it became apparent that it looked impossible to meet the enormous cost and so after discussion and prayer it was decided to apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

**THE FIRST MIRACLE** was that among our congregation were folk with the skills and knowledge in making such an application.

**THE SECOND MIRACLE** was that the application was successful and a sum of money to complete the work was promised.



An architect, contractor and scaffolder were appointed and the work started.

Later a suggestion was made to try a second application to the Fund. This concerned the roofs and guttering over the side aisles which, for many years, had leaked rainwater into the church.

**THE THIRD MIRACLE** was that a second large sum was approved to cover the additional work.

Everything was completed on time, within budget and safely!

*Continued on next page*

# THANKSGIVING SERVICE



As a church we are conscious of God’s miraculous provision throughout the project and upon completion it was only right to hold a service of thanksgiving and celebration.

On Sunday September 8th a large attendance was able to sing and pray our thanksgiving to God for all that had been achieved. The local primary school choir joined in and leading members of the PDG were able to explain their roles and emphasise God’s goodness as well as being honoured for their contributions.

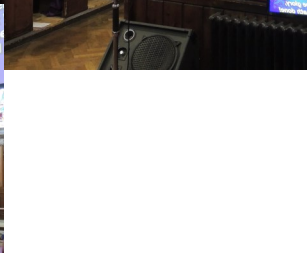
**BELOW**

Derek Watkinson unveils the plaque with young members of ‘Kids’ Church’



**BELOW**

VIP Guests



**ABOVE**

Redlands School Choirs  
+ Damilola and Tobias from ‘Kids’ Church’

Archdeacon Victoria Ramsey gave the address in which she emphasised that the church is God’s people and that He is unchanging and totally faithful and our church points to Jesus. Rev Dave Gough prayed for revival in the local community to share our hope in Jesus Christ.

After such a successful celebration we retired to the Hall for delicious cakes and a hot drink.

**Andrew Rutherford**



## ***A Message to St John's people and Greetings from The Grays***

We hope you are all ok and doing well.

It was a joy to meet up with our dear friends Sue and Chris Ledger recently. We reminisced about how great our God is and the many blessings we have received from Him over the years.

It has been a pleasure for us to follow the progress of the repair of the spire and roof. We remember sitting on many PCCs talking about the challenges and repairs needed to make the spire safe and the roof watertight. So to hear about it and see pictures of it finally finished is something to rejoice about.

St John's is a special place to us. We remember fellowship, sharing and praying together and never tiring of seeing God's wonders, healings and miracles performed. (Why are we surprised?)

What are you praying for, that God will do with you and for you this week? Or what does he want to do!? Perhaps more importantly, will you let Him? Whatever God does in your life please remember to share it.

As we were praying and thinking about you all, we offer what we felt God was saying.

"Whatever situation you find yourself in, know and believe that I have you. No one can snatch you out of My hand. He who calls you, is faithful. You find your rest in Me."

A NEW WINE song that Nathan and Natasha used to sing came to mind - some of you might remember it.

'Now I belong to Jesus  
and His Spirit lives in me.  
I'm a soldier and a servant  
for the King of Kings.  
I fight against the wrong I find,  
I serve him with my heart and mind  
a soldier and a servant I will be.

Keep me faithful Lord Jesus,  
keep me faithful Lord to you.  
Make me faithful Lord Jesus,  
make me faithful Lord to you.'

Love & every blessing in Christ

*David & Joanne Gray xx*

Many thanks to Howard Balston for the photographs



AS A CHURCH we are called to be salt and light in our community. Many people walk past our building situated on one of the main roads into town. What do they see?

**A spire pointing people to God**



**A door that is open to all**



**A beautifully re-gilded clock face**



**"Now is the Time to Seek THE LORD"**

**(from The Bible Hosea 10 u 12)**

## *James' Scouting Journey with St John's Scout Group*



I began my scouting journey around age 6 starting out in Beavers. I remember Sue and Jane being very welcoming and were great at ensuring everyone was engaged in all the activities (we often did puzzles, arts and crafts). Around age 9 I moved into cubs which was run and organised by Mavis and Michael Taylor. Once again the group was held in the Church hall on Monday evenings.

Within cubs we did different activities such as cooking and baking as well as some very basic fire lighting. I even made sixer and achieved my silver scouting snow was definitely differ-

award. I moved to Scouts at ent. So, ultimately Scouting around age 11 with Pip, Dave has been a big part of the and Gareth as leaders. In last 12 years of my life and Scouts I learned more complex pioneering, knife work, fire lighting and Tent races (which involved working as a team to raise a tent then drop it and pack it away the quickest). My scouting journey was unfortunately interrupted by Covid in 2020.

Following the Pandemic I rejoined as an Explorer Scout run by Ben and Luke held on a Sunday evening at St Anne's Scout Hut. In this Group we had the freedom to control what we did which meant we did a lot of pioneering, map reading, cooking and fire lighting outside. Once we even made an oven by digging 2 holes in the ground. Also through Explorers I was able to participate in the NESST overnight hike from Walesby, which was an experience to say the least as walking over 20 miles in 1 night through mud and sometimes snow was definitely differ-



For enquiries about our Scout Group or Guides contact church office—Tel overleaf

For more information about St John's Church contact Church Office 01909 472595

Website: [stjohnschurchworksop.co.uk](http://stjohnschurchworksop.co.uk)



Follow us on Facebook