

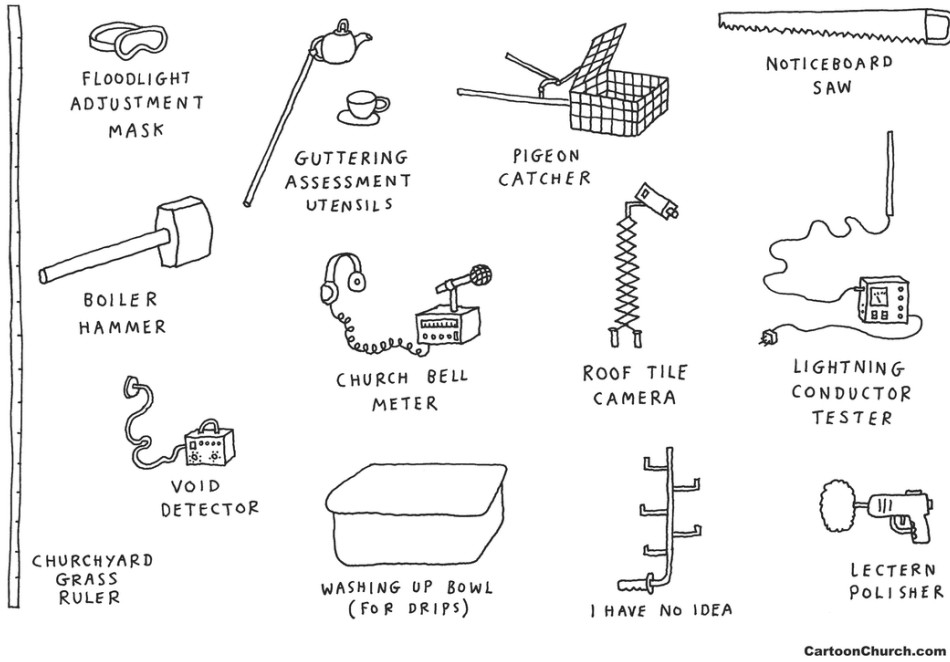
# THE COMMONER

ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON

14 JULY 2022 ISSUE #47

## CHURCH MAINTENANCE

A BASIC TOOL KIT



Unless the Lord builds the house, it's builders labour in vain. So says Psalm 127, verse 1.

And I guess if you were trying to maintain your (Grade II listed) church using the curious array of tools in the cartoon opposite, your labour would equally be in vain. Even with a generous supply of the Lord's help, I have a sneaking suspicion it wouldn't be too long before the Health and Safety police were reporting you for buildings violations, and some poor, unfortunate, volunteer from the Fabrics Committee did themselves some lasting damage, too.

Next year sees St Barnabas reach the grand old age of 125. Consecrated on 1st October 1898, even the old front doors were new then. As of last week, however, they were replaced with new ones. Based on the old design and reusing the original iron work, too, they manage to look quite familiar and very different at the same time.

It's certainly good to smarten up our outward appearance and open or closed, I hope they convey an unspoken word of welcome. If they don't, well you know what they say: our labour will have been in vain. RT

## PRAYER FOR A CHURCH WITH NEW FRONT DOORS

O God,  
make the door of this house wide enough to receive  
all who need human love and fellowship;  
narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride, and strife.

Make its threshold smooth enough to be  
no stumbling block to children nor to straying feet,  
but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power.

God, make the door of this house  
the gateway to thine eternal kingdom.



## SUSAN'S ORDINATION

We were delighted to see Susan being ordained priest on July the 2nd. She has promised to come back to St Barnabas to preach and preside and will let you know when.



## ECO CHURCH

You no doubt will have heard about it and for today's Commoner, we asked Monica to recap on the project:

**What is Eco-Church?** *Eco-Church is an organisation created to help churches in England express our care for God's creation. There is an award scheme to help drive activities in the areas of worship, education, building, land, and community involvement.*

**What does it mean for the church?** *We've formed a committee to review and make recommendations on how to raise the priority of environmental awareness in our church and congregation. You should start seeing initiatives pop up that will make the church itself more eco-friendly and hopefully make you think more about your own care for our planet as well.*

**What do we want to achieve?** *Although we'd love to receive a Gold Level Award eventually, we'd mainly like to bring the environment to the forefront of our decision making to ensure smart choices both for the church and at home. Sometimes environmental action can be overwhelming so we are hoping to help our congregation understand why it is important to keep trying and also simple ways to make changes.*

**What comes next?** *We are already moving forward with some small projects (litter pick up, prayers, education, gardening) and gathering information for potential bigger ones (solar, LED lighting) - also, look for special events during Creationtide! But this will be an ongoing effort that won't stop with an award. There is plenty of room for many more ideas and help so if you are interested in sharing an idea or getting involved, please see one of the committee or staff.*

Monica McFarland

## WORSHIP IN JULY & AUGUST

- 17 JUL HOLY COMMUNION, 11am
- 24 JUL BCP COMMUNION, 9.30am  
ALL AGE MORNING WORSHIP, 11am
- 31 JUL HOLY COMMUNION, 11am
- 07 AUG FAMILY COMMUNION, 11am
- 14 AUG MORNING WORSHIP & BAPTISM, 11am
- 21 AUG FAMILY COMMUNION, 11am
- 28 AUG MORNING WORSHIP & BAPTISM, 11am

**Daily Prayers** will end on 21 July and return on 05 Sep.

**Thursday Fellowship Lunch** will be on 15 Sep, 1pm

**Groups for children and young people** resume 11 Sep

**Next Family Service** will be on Sun 04 Sep, 9.30am

**Next Taize Communion Service** will be on Weds 14 Sep

## VICARAGE GARDEN PARTY



Thank you for a lovely Vicarage Garden party and congratulations to Yvonne who won the Hat Competition!

## GRAND PIANO WINNER



Congratulations to Mia, Merlena's granddaughter who won **Wandsworth Senior Young Musician of the year**. Whilst we cannot take any credit for her musical talent, we are delighted to say that Mia has been practising on St Barnabas' old grand piano, which Merlena had bought for her when we got the newer one. Top grand-parenting Merlena - and big congratulations to Mia!

## A PRAYER FOR THE EARTH

*Help us to respond with wisdom and foresight to the threat of climate change*

*We pray for those affected by rising sea levels and extreme weather conditions.*

*Help us, in reducing our own carbon footprint, to play our part in reducing the country's carbon emissions. Grant us the personal and political will to make a difference.*



ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON  
CHURCH FOR ALL - INCLUDING YOU

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