

November 2024

FOCUS

Issue 289



Parish Magazine of St Stephen's, Hightown



Hawksbeard

DDAY

80th Anniversary Year



Editor's Note

November, with its already shorter days and longer nights is a perfect time to gather round a cosy fire, with friends or family, either inside or outside, and share memories, both recent and those that go further back in the mists of time

All Souls Day is the special day when we pray for and honour the memory of our loved ones who have died. We have a service dedicated to this on Sunday 3rd November at 6pm. We remember them before God, who is not time bound, and so past, present and future come together. It is a good opportunity to remember that our lives are finite and one day we will all be reunited. Just for today, however, we must strive to do our best to love and serve the Lord on Earth.

Enjoy the last month of autumn, Colette.



Christmas Fayre



Saturday November 30th

11am until 2pm

Come and meet Santa at noon

Many stalls and activities

Refreshments available

Dear Friends,

On Sunday 10th November, as a village, we will gather around the Hightown War Memorial to remember and give thanks for those who have lost their lives in conflicts going back over a century, and at 11am we will fall silent for two minutes. It's important that we remember, with thanks, the names chiselled out on our village memorial. The Kohima Epitaph in Northeast India reads,



'When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow we gave our today'.

We will remember them.

At St Stephen's, we continue to pray for peace. We light the 'Peace Candle' and pray the following prayer before all of our services, and include it in our live-stream Compline, each Sunday evening:

*"Most holy God and Father,
hear our prayers for all who strive for peace
and all who fight for justice.*

*We pray for the leaders of the nations,
that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice and truth.
As we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict,
bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your presence:
through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose Holy Name we pray. Amen."*

We are reminded daily, on our television screens and in our newspapers, of the ongoing and seemingly escalating wars and conflicts in our world.

In my November Focus letter last year, I quoted words from Henri Nouwen, they are just as, if not more relevant this year:

"For Jesus, there are no countries to be conquered, no ideologies to be imposed, no people to be dominated. There are only children, women and men to be loved"

"As peacemakers, we must resist all the powers of war and destruction and proclaim that peace is the divine gift offered to all who affirm life"

Wherever you are on Sunday 10th at 11am, do pause, do fall silent, do remember with gratitude for those who have given their lives and, if you can, offer a prayer for peace in our troubled world. Prayers are always heard.

(cont. p4)

If you can be with us at the Hightown War Memorial, you will be most welcome to join us in church afterwards for our Remembrance Day Service.

God Bless,

Keith

Gift Day Envelopes

With this edition of Focus you will find a 'St Stephen's Gift Day' envelope. We do hope you will feel able to make a donation, which will assist us to continue our mission to the Hightown Community.

This year we intend to use your gifts towards the cost of essential work on our church roof. We decided it was sensible to have the work done this summer rather than wait and perhaps suffer from a bad winter.

The work cost more than £8,000 and the Liverpool Diocese made a Grant of £3,750 (funded by Church of England) towards this. St Stephen's, though, have had to cover the shortfall.

Many of you may wonder why St Stephen's is asking for your help with this appeal, and holds fund-raising events on a regular basis. In 2023, it cost us £75,000 to run the church and our hall. It may surprise you to hear that each parish is expected to be financially self-sufficient, and that we do not receive regular funding from The Church of England, Sefton Council or Hightown Parish Council towards these running costs.

Any gift, large or small, would be much appreciated and will be faithfully applied. If you are a taxpayer, then completion of the Gift Aid declaration will increase your gift by 25% without any cost to you.

Envelopes, containing your gifts, can be left in the church letter box, (to the right of the church doors), or at The Village Stores.

On behalf of the whole of the St Stephen's community, thank you so much for your generosity.

Keith Aldis (Church Treasurer)

St Stephen's Church Services – November

FRIDAY 1ST	09:30	MORNING PRAYER
SUNDAY 3RD	10:30	ALL AGE EUCHARIST
SUNDAY 3RD	18:00	SERVICE OF HOPE & REMEMBRANCE FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
WEDNESDAY 6TH	10:30	EUCHARIST
FRIDAY 8TH	09:30	MORNING PRAYER
SUNDAY 10TH	10:30	MEET FOR SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY 10TH	12:00	SHORT SAID EUCHARIST
SUNDAY 10TH	16:00	TODDLER CHURCH
SUNDAY 10TH	18:00	EVENSONG
WEDNESDAY 13TH	10:30	EUCHARIST
WEDNESDAY 13TH	19:00	SANCTUARY AT SEVEN
FRIDAY 15TH	09:30	MORNING PRAYER
SUNDAY 17TH	10:30	EUCHARIST
SUNDAY 17TH	18:00	EVENSONG
WEDNESDAY 20TH	10:30	EUCHARIST
FRIDAY 22ND	09:30	MORNING PRAYER
SUNDAY 24TH	10:30	EUCHARIST
SUNDAY 24TH	18:00	BCP HOLY COMMUNION
WEDNESDAY 27TH	10:30	EUCHARIST
FRIDAY 29TH	09:30	MORNING PRAYER

Prayer Prompts For November



- 1st. **All Saints' Day** – This day celebrates all saints in Christian history, particularly those who do not have their own special feast day.
For the people of St Stephen's Road and Hester Close.
- 2nd. **All Souls' Day.** Commemoration of the faithful departed. On this day, Christians remember the departed and prayers on their behalf are offered.
For the people of Briary Croft.
- 3rd. **4th Sunday before Advent.** For our church services today, and all who lead them.
For the people of Elmcroft Lane, Windermere Road and Holmfield.
- 4th. For the congregations and clergy of St. Stephen's and Our Lady's Churches.
For the people of School Road and Sandilands Grove.
- 5th. For the safety of all enjoying fireworks tonight.
For the people of North End Lane, Moss Lane and the local farms.
- 6th. For the users of, and those who clean and maintain St Stephen's Hall.
For the people of Sandhills and Bankside.
- 7th. For all local businesses: The Village Salon, Dental Practice, Pharmacy, GP Surgery and others, thanking them for all they do.
For all the people of Hightown.
- 8th. For our children and young people, that they may be kept safe.
For the people of Blundell Avenue and Oakfield Road.
- 9th. For teachers and lecturers in all settings.
For the people of Blundell Road.
- 10th. **Remembrance Sunday.** Today we remember our armed forces and their families in Britain and the Commonwealth, and the service and sacrifice of those who have defended our freedoms. We pray for today's service at the Hightown War Memorial.
For the people of Whitefield Close, Langley Close and Richmond Close.
- 11th. For the work of Altcar Training Camp.
For the people of the Range and Altcar Camp.
- 12th. For peace in our world, remembering all those areas in conflict.
For the people of Old Acre and Larkhill Grove.
- 13th. For the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and Palestine, that a lasting, peaceful solution may be found.
For the people of St. George's Road and Grasmere Road.
- 14th. For political leaders and all leaders of countries and governments.
For all the people of Hightown.

Prayer prompts (contd)



- 15th. For all refugees and asylum seekers.
For the people of Mark Road.
- 16th. For relief agencies as they work with victims.
For the people of Village Way and The Roundway.
- 17th. **2nd Sunday before Advent.** For those who are unable to practise their faith.
For the people of Alt Road, Lower Alt Road, and Thistledown Drive.
- 18th. For parents, guardians and all caregivers, that they will be filled with love and compassion.
For the people of Tudor Gardens and Rathbone Road.
- 19th. For families in need, struggling with the cost of living.
For the people of Gorse Lane, Orrell Hill Lane and Delph Road.
- 20th. For those with disabilities who lack access to care.
For all the people of Hightown.
- 21st. For the teachings of the Bible, that we may take time to read it.
For the people of Emerson Close and Mayfair Close.
- 22nd. For St. Stephen's Church Youth Club and Toddler Time group.
For the people of Thirlmere Road and Brentwood Close.
- 23rd. That, as part of the Liverpool Diocese Rule of Life, we aim to pray, read and learn in our inner journey, and tell, serve and give in our outer journey of faith.
For the people of Withins Field and Blundell Grove.
- 24th. **Christ the King.** The annual cycle of the Church's year ends today.
For the people of Marston Crescent and Alton Close.
- 25th. For our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to You.
For the people of Sandy Lane and Thirlmere Mews.
- 26th. For our monthly All Age Services and Toddler Church.
For the people of Elvington Road.
- 27th. For all those who suffer in mind, body and spirit.
For all the people of Hightown.
- 28th. For all who work in our NHS and other health care services.
For the people of North Dunes and Westway.
- 29th. For the work of all food banks, and the local Formby Pantry
For the people of Thornbeck Avenue.
- 30th. **Andrew the Apostle.** We thank you for Andrew's readiness to obey your call.
For all the people of Riverside.

Sunday Coffee Rota Nov.

**3rd Hilary Munro
10th Margaret Bate
17th Jane Croxton
24th Jane Copeland**

**Entries for future issues of Focus to
be sent to :**

Focus.Mag.2023

@StStephensHightown.org.uk

**Please submit before last day of
month**

**For Baptisms, Weddings
and Funerals or any
pastoral need, please
contact the Vicar,
Revd Keith Thornborough
at**

**St Stephen's
on 0151 929 3097**

Prices for advertising per annum:

Full page: £550

Half page: £275

Quarter page: £135

One eighth page: £70

***Contact:
Adverts@StStephensHightown.org.uk***

All Age Eucharist

**1st Sunday of Every Month
10.30 at St Stephen's**

**Appropriate for all age groups
from the old to the very
young**

**Readings, prayers, hymns,
folk group and a
celebration of the
Eucharist**

**A less formal service with
the Eucharist at the heart**

Brass Rota

November

Hazel Roberts

December

Colette Hudson



Who's Who at St Stephen's

Vicar	Revd Keith Thornborough
Warden	Judith Welch Judith.Churchwarden@StStephensHightown.org.uk
PCC Secretary	Beryl Howard
PCC Treasurer	Keith Aldis
Gift Aid Secretary	Brian Taylor
Safeguarding	Cath Marshall cathmarshall47@yahoo.co.uk
Electoral Roll	Beth Cresswell
Sacristan Team	Hazel Roberts
Health and Safety	<i>TBA</i>
Flower Rota	Sue Taylor
CMS Secretary	Beryl Howard
St Stephen's Youth Club	Jane Croxton
Church Hall Bookings	Sally Fraser
Focus Editor	Colette Hudson Focus.Mag.2023@StStephensHightown.org.uk
Focus Adverts	Colette Hudson Adverts@StStephensHightown.org.uk
Focus Distribution	Mr and Mrs K Bradshaw
St Stephen's Church Website	StStephensHightown.org.uk

WHAT'S ON AT FORMBY PANTRY?

Welcome Space

Everyone is invited to join us in our welcoming environment where you can relax, enjoy a hot drink, and delicious meal – all at no cost. Get out of the house, make new friends, and stay warm in a friendly community setting.



Uniform Hub

Access Preloved School Uniforms for both Formby High and Range High. Whether you need uniforms or wish to recycle old ones, our service offers them for free or a small donation. This service is open to everyone, and benefits both your wallet and the environment. Why not give your old school uniforms a new life here?



Formby Food Pantry

If you're living on a tight budget, our Food Pantry offers an affordable way to shop weekly, helping you save on your grocery bill and free up funds for other essentials. By becoming a member, you gain access for a year to a variety of fresh, frozen, chilled, and long-life items. Join us and make your weekly shop more manageable and budget-friendly!



What our members say -

"The volunteers at the Pantry were lovely, it gave me back confidence and self esteem. It doesn't matter who you are, from any background, any of us might need a bit of help."

"The Food Pantry has been amazing and a lifesaver for me. I'm not on my own."

Thursdays 11:00am - 12:45pm
at the Gild Hall Activity Centre,
Church Road, Formby L37 3NG

To join call **01704 264505** or visit www.compassionacts.uk/food-pantry
To volunteer or donate, drop in and see us on a Thursday.

FROM BETH'S KITCHEN

MINCEMEAT AND MINCE PIES

I am writing this at the end of September when one dare not mention the “C” word. However, this recipe will appear in November when everywhere is thrusting the up-and-coming season at us.

Be prepared is my motto, and so with a few moments to spare one can make one's own mince pies filled with this delicious concoction. Freeze them and you will receive a lot of “Brownie” points when you produce them for a Christmas afternoon tea.



For the mincemeat

225g (1 large) Bramley apple, peeled, cored and finely diced

110g suet (can be vegetarian) 110g currants

175g mixed peel 110g dark brown or muscovado sugar

1 tsp sweet mixed spice pinch of nutmeg, freshly grated

zest and juice of 1 lemon zest and juice of 1 orange

2 tablespoons Cognac

To make the mincemeat: In a large bowl, mix all the ingredients together and stir well. Store in an airtight container in the fridge for 4 days before using. It can be kept in the fridge for up to a month.

Make sweet shortcrust pastry with 250g plain flour. Roll out and cut into 24-30 and smaller tops. Line the tartlet moulds and fill with mincemeat to level with the sides, add tops and brush with beaten egg. I scatter mine with caster sugar before putting them in the oven at 170C/gas 5 for about 25 minutes. Cool on a wire rack and then freeze.

Defrost and reheat before serving. Enjoy!



LOVETOBUYYOURCAR.COM

We buy all kind of cars and we'd love to buy yours!

Get your car valued by an expert, not a computer.
Any make, any model, regardless of age
or condition. We always offer a fair price.

We're a local, trustworthy company
who will come to you.

Call: Mike Braid 07887 637774
or email: info@lovetobuyyourcar.com

ENTER YOUR REGISTRATION NUMBER

Use the form above to send us your
car registration number

WHATSAPP OR TEXT YOUR DETAILS

Send your car registration number
and details to +44 (0)7887 637774

RECEIVE A VALUATION NEXT DAY

Our experts will research your car's
REAL value

Or visit: www.lovetobuyyourcar.com and follow the steps above.

The Will Writing Guild (UK) Ltd or The WWG has been established for over 25 years, providing Will services across the North West. During this period, we have prepared thousands of Wills, many of which have been referrals and recommendations by our existing clients.

We offer the following services:

- Will and Updates
- Lasting Power of Attorney
- Probate Administration
- Protective Property Trust Wills
- Advice on Long Term Care
- Secure Document Storage
- Equity Release
- Free Home Visits



We're here to help



Call NOW on **01704 546688**



Visit us online at **thewwg.co.uk**



To request a home visit call us or visit our website

Eldon Court, 39-41 Hoghton Street, Southport PR9 0NS Mobile: 07885 757361 Email: info@thewwg.co.uk



Dean Brothers

Independent Family Funeral Services since 1827

Tel: 01704 872023

At Dean Brothers we are very proud to be nearly 200 years old, providing caring, supportive services to the local communities of Formby, Southport and surrounding areas.

National Award Winning Services

Low Carbon Footprint, green energy supplied

Luxury Chapels of Rest

Prepaid funeral plans

Members of National Associations NAFD AND SAIF

SAIF Bereavement Care support



Verified Customer Reviews



www.deanbros.co.uk



Prices for advertising per annum:

Full page: £550

Half page: £275

Quarter page: £135

One eighth page: £70

Contact:

Adverts@StStephensHightown.org.uk

Keep this date free:

Saturday October 12th 8pm Race

Night

with Cheese and Wine

St Stephen's Church Hall

For regular giving—Everyone benefits

For details, Please contact:

Brian Taylor: 0151 929 2720

Keith Aldis: 0151 929 3612



ABRAM FENCING

Est 1976 - "A Family Business"

Tel: 01704 889185

Mob: 07711 549489



Quality Fencing at affordable prices

Supplied or erected **FREE ESTIMATES**

Website: AbramFencing.co.uk

James Kershaw -Joiner-

Local Master Craftsman

All aspects of house maintenance

From hanging doors to home extensions

Free Written Estimates

01704 562564 & 07523 253391

NICK STARK FCCA

CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANT

- * accounts preparations for individuals, sole traders partnerships, limited companies
- * tax returns, corporate & individual
- * payroll
- * bookkeeping (SAGE a speciality)
- * VAT
- * business reviews

27 Holmwood Gardens, Formby, Liverpool, L37 1NH

01704 778303



Specialists in all types of

- Flat Roofing
- Slating and Tiling
- Leadwork Repairs
- Storm Damage
- Guttering

All Type of Roofing Repairs

*Competitive Prices on UPVC
Replacement Fascia*

HIGHTOWN ROOFING COMPANY

6 Elmcroft Lane, Hightown, Merseyside. L38 3RN

PROPRIETOR: DAVID FEALEY

*for a FREE
no obligation quote call*

**Tel : 0151 929 3615
Mobile: 07970 688880**



Yoga Somatics
At The Hightown
Club

Monday 10.30-12.00 & 18.15-19.45

Tuesday 10.30-12.00

Please get in touch

Rose Billinge - mob: 07900 017 608

Email: rosebillinge@yahoo.co.uk

Prices for advertising per annum:

Full page: £550

Half page: £275

Quarter page: £135

One eighth page: £70

Contact:

Adverts@StStephensHightown.org.uk



Barringtons

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL SERVICES

Family owned and run business by David and Claire Barrington. Offering care and support for a personal and relevant service for all your arrangements.

- Arrangements made in your own home.
- Pre-paid funeral plans available from Ecclesiastical Planning Services.
- Private chapels of rest available.
- Environmentally conscious funerals available.
- Free estimates given without obligation.
- Please visit our website for details of all our fees and charges.

www.barringtonsfunerals.co.uk



Offices :

28 Crosby Road North, Waterloo, L22 4QF - 0151 928 1625
38 The Marian Square, Netherton, L30 5QA - 0151 329 3525
49 Liverpool Road, Formby, L37 6BT - 01704 547851

CALL PAUL LOCKSMITHS

ESTABLISHED 2000



A Registered Insured NCFE Certified Company

Call Paul for a Fast, Reliable, Professional Service

- UPVC & WOODEN DOOR SPECIALIST
- Emergency Door Opening
- UPVC Door Lock Repairs
- UPVC Door Lock Changes
- UPVC Door Lock Upgrades
- Wood Door Lock Changes
- All Work Guaranteed

TELEPHONE

01704 369930

MOBILE

07932 718362

WWW.CALLPAULLOCKSMITH.CO.UK



Blundellsands Sailing Club

Established 1907 Hightown



New sailing members welcome!

Whether you are a complete novice to sailing and want to give sailing a try or are an experienced ocean dweller you are more than welcome at BSC.

No boat required!

We sail all manner of yachts up to 30ft in length from moorings in the Alt between April and October. During the winter we fit out our boats in the boat yard with lots of socialising and events throughout the year at our club house overlooking the shore.

If you are interested in joining the club or trying some sailing with existing members, please contact:

Rohan Pickard - Commodore
Rohan.Pickard@Gmail.com

Deryk Johnson - Vice Commodore
DerykJ@Gmail.com



FEELING FLABBY, UNFIT
AND SICK OF DIETS?

WANT TO BE B-FIT + FABULOUS?

AS my FREE GIFT to you I will teach you how to:

Feel fabulous, toned, slimmer and healthier

Drop a dress size without calorie counting

Boost your energy and feel 10 years younger

Have the WOW factor

**TO CLAIM YOUR FREE GIFT AND BOOK YOUR
FREE B-FIT B-FABULOUS SESSION WORTH £60**

Call Gaynor on 07748 298 728 or email: Gaynor@B-Fit.uk.com
Only 6 places available — For success stories visit www.B-Fit.uk.com



HIGHTOWN CLUB
Founded 1907

The Hightown Club

Thirlmere Road, Hightown, L38 3RQ

CRICKET (MENS, LADIES, GIRLS) * SQUASH * BOWLS * TENNIS
VETERANS FOOTBALL * CROSBY ST. MARY'S R.U.F.C. * SOCIAL CLUB

The Hightown Club is a village Sports and Members Club, which encompasses the heart of the Hightown Community. We host a range of sporting activities for all age groups at casual and competitive levels and we actively encourage the local community to enjoy the facilities at the Club by attending our wide range and top quality events or just dropping in for a friendly drink in our Sports Bar.

Sports Bar Opening Hours

Monday & Wednesday Closed. Tuesday & Thurs 6-10pm. Friday 6-11pm. Saturday 6-12pm. Sunday 1-9pm

Function Room for Hire for Special Events

Ideal for Celebrations, Christenings, Holy Communions, Weddings, Funerals, Conferences and Community Events.

For Catering Enquiries, Contact: Janet Holmes: 0151 929 2330 or 07504 399 103

For Membership Enquiries, Contact: Chris Scrine: 07884 491 806



TOWER HEATING

Your Local Worcester Bosch Accredited Partner

01704 834363

Here for you:
8am - 8pm
365 days a year



- ✓ Boiler Installations
- ✓ Boiler/Fire Servicing and Repairs
- ✓ Radiators
- ✓ Power Flushing
- ✓ Smart Thermostats
- ✓ Emergency Line



9015

Proud sponsors of - *The Hightown & St. Mary's Cricket Club*

www.towerheating.com



formbyflooringcentre

Specialists in Carpets, Laminates,
Vinyls, Karndean

37 - 39 Three Tuns Lane, Formby, L37 4AQ
Tel: 01704 834 371 - FAX: 01704 875 233

Ready when you need it...



FAST Same Day Print!

from supplied print ready files*

*only available on selected services


www.ThePrintQuarter.com Email: sales@pqsouthport.com Tel. 01704 543010



Eldon Court, 39-41 Hoghton Street, Southport PR9 0NS

Hightown Physiotherapy Clinic
 physiotherapy and acupuncture

registered with the Health
 and Care Professions Council



Tricia Blyth M.C.S.P. Back & Neck Pain
 07967 140809 Sports Injuries
 25 Blundell Road, Arthritis
 Hightown Post-Op Rehabilitation
 Accupuncture

YOUR FLOOR IS OUR PASSION
 SOLID AND ENGINEERING WOOD FLOORING

Sanding - Installation
 Repairs - Stairs & Worktops

Phone: 0789541406
 Phone: 07752050084
 Email: PassionFloors@gmail.com
 Website: PassionFlooring.co.uk





Prices for advertising per annum:

Full page: £550
Half page: £275
Quarter page: £135
One eighth page: £70

Contact:
Adverts@StStephensHightown.org.uk

MIKE'S POWERWASH
 Industrial Power Cleaning
 of Patios & Drives

Phone Mike for your value price:
Tel: 0151 474 0760
Mob: 07738 304364

Wills and Powers of Attorney are powerful legal documents. The skill in preparing the right document for your circumstances comes from knowing to ask the right questions coupled with the experience and expertise to draft it correctly; and thereafter ensuring that the formalities of finalising the document are properly adhered to. If you cut corners there is a risk that your loved ones will only discover the problems when it is too late - causing them stress, heartache and unnecessary financial loss.

Don't leave it to chance.

Make sure you only use an individual who personally is:

- a qualified professional
- a dedicated specialist
- highly experienced
- formally regulated by a recognised legal body
- insured as per regulatory requirements
- accredited member of Solicitors for the Elderly and STEP

Elizabeth Foggin TEP, Solicitor at Autumn Years Law is your local expert in:

- Wills & Trusts
- Court of Protection/ Deputyship
- Lifetime & Inheritance Tax Planning
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Probate & Estate Administration
- Elderly client services

Our friendly approach is both compassionate yet professional and as a company we are committed to providing you with high quality legal advice. Free home/hospital visits are available if you have physical difficulties in being able to come to us.

Autumn Years Law, 22-24 Chapel Lane, Formby L37 4DU (inside Derbyshires)
www.autumnyearslaw.co.uk Tel: 01704 870404 info@autumnyearslaw.co.uk

Private, ethical general practice

GP appointments to suit you

- Experienced GPs
- Longer appointments
- Face-to-face consultations
- Medical weight management
- Phone & video calls
- Coils for HRT
- Home visits

Formby GP
4 Victoria Buildings
Victoria Road, Formby L37 7DB
01704 617050



www.formbygp.com

Easy Fundraising

St Stephens has have been using #easyfundraising to raise FREE donations for the Church when we shop online. We have just been paid! These donations will make a BIG difference and you can help during this difficult time too - it only takes 2 minutes to sign up and 4,500+ shops (including Amazon and Ebay) will donate for free, every time you shop online with them!

Why not visit:

[easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ststephenschhightown/
payments/60537b0af62fd200266cbd30/](https://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ststephenschhightown/payments/60537b0af62fd200266cbd30/)

to find out more ?

As that famous advertising slogan tells us: 'every little helps'.



Time to choose *Live-in* Care

Receive care and companionship every day from the UK's leading provider of care in the home.

Live-in Care is a way to remain independent at home while receiving practical care, support and companionship.

Call our office team today to discuss your own specific needs.

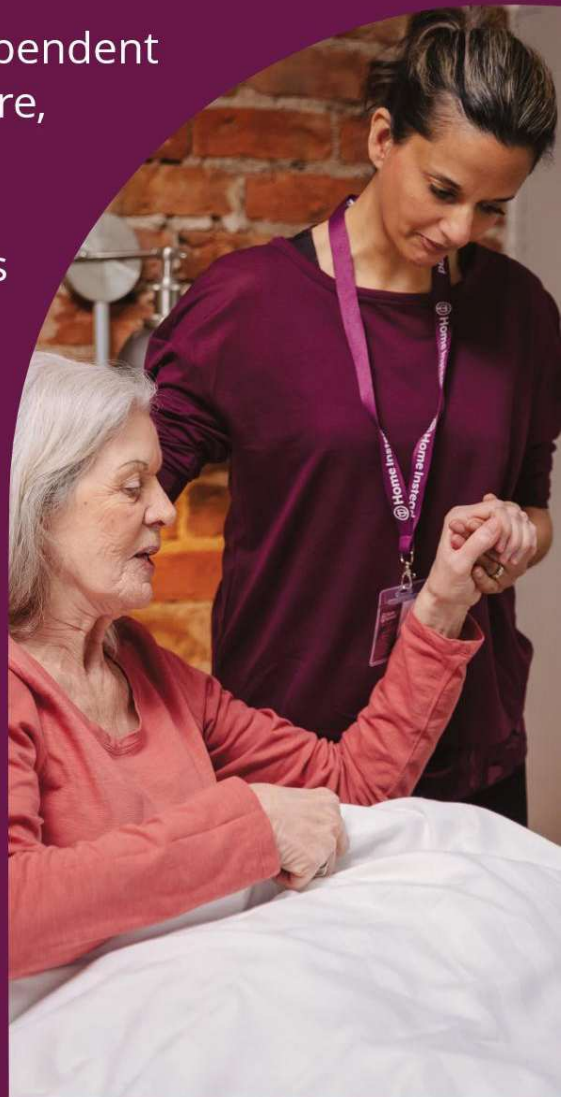
0151 526 1225

Or visit us at

[www.homeinstead.co.uk/
liverpoolandsefton](http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/liverpoolandsefton)

Home Instead Liverpool Central & North
56-58 Liverpool Road, Crosby,
Liverpool, L23 5SG

Each Home Instead office is
independently owned and operated.



LIVERPOOL L38 📍
HOME STUDIO & MOBILE



SIENNA X ORIGINAL TAN -
£25

SIENNAX EXPRESS TAN -
£27.50

MOBILE APPOINTMENTS +
£5

RR

RUNWAY READY
BEAUTY

FULL FACE MAKEUP - £40

OCCASSION MAKEUP - £45

EYES ONLY - £20

BRIDAL/PHOTOSHOOT MAKEUP -
CONTACT FOR MORE INFO.

MOBILE APPOINTMENTS +£5



@RUNWAYREADYBEAUTY

07535062485

Southport Wills Caroline Speakman

- Specialist in Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Property Trust Wills
- Legacies & Bequests
- Home Probate Service
- Free Home Visits



If you would like some information or some guidance,
please email me or send a message through the Website.

You can also contact me on 07926 587776 to make an appointment.

Caroline Speakman

Member of the Society of Willwriters

Email: southportwills@gmail.com

Phone: **07926 587776**

Website: www.southportwills.com



Did you know ?.....

**You can get the St Stephens weekly sheet sent to your inbox
each week.**

Simply send an email to: jayne.cudby@gmail.com

Supply your email address and name and she will do the rest!

Village Organisations and Activities

Tuesday Group, St Stephen's Hall Tuesday morning 10am	Beryl Howard Jan Branigan
Hightown Friendship Group 1st Wednesday at 8pm St Stephen's Hall	Marjorie Walker
Gardening Club 2nd Monday 8pm St Stephen's Hall	Hilary Munro
Bowling Club, Sandy Lane	Diana Killen
Hightown Club	Chris Scrine
Blundellsands Sailing Club	Rohan Pickard— RohanPickard@gmail.com Deryk Johnson— DerykJ@gmail.com
Yoga Classes, Hightown Club	Rose Billinge
Flower Show	Debbie Underhill— underhillsathome@aol.com
Open Mic Poetry Group 3rd Thursday 7.30pm St Stephen's Church hall	Sally Anne— tapiabowes@gmail.com Alex
Craft Group, Every Thursdays 1.30-3.30pm, St Stephen's Hall	Sue Taylor
Hightown Parish Council	Jenny Farrar clerk@hightownparishcouncil.uk www.hightownparishcouncil.uk
Community Library, Alt Centre, Lower Alt Rd. Mon 12-2, Tues 1-3, Weds 1-4, Fri 10-12	Linda Munro— lindamunro@hotmail.com
Zumba Gold, Dance for all aged 55 plus, Mondays 9.45-10.30, St Stephen's Hall	Nicky Garsforth
Creo Dance Co Mon Tues Wed Thurs Sat Children 3 to 18 years	Georgia Gaudi

Remembrance 1944: D-Day - the Normandy Landings

Graham Goodchild, Old Acre

“During the night and the early hours of this morning, the first of a series of landings in force upon the European Continent has taken place.”

Winston Churchill, House of Commons, 6 June, 1944

Stormy Seas

On 6 June, the nation commemorated the 80th anniversary of the 1944 Allied landings in Normandy; they heralded the beginning of the end of the Second World War. Operation Overlord was later known as D-Day because in military parlance D-Day is the starting date of a major operation. For us today, D-Day stands alone as meaning 6 June 1944 - a turning point in history. The D-Day landings represented the greatest recorded seaborne invasion ever, involving 6,800 vessels, 11,500 aircraft, 4,000 ten-tonne landing craft and 156,000 troops. They were an outstanding multi-national Allied achievement and a triumph of organisation and logistics, brilliantly carried out in conditions of the utmost secrecy to maintain the vital element of surprise. Everything, though, depended on the weather in the English Channel, which had defeated many previous invasions. Storms in the Channel had forced William the Conqueror to postpone his invasion of Britain from July to September 1066; storms had destroyed and scattered the Spanish Armada in 1588.

General Eisenhower, the American Supreme Commander of Allied Forces, had fixed Monday, 5 June 1944 for the Normandy invasion, but his chief meteorologist, Scottish Group Captain James Stagg, was uneasy. Reports from weather stations around the British Isles on 3 June did not match the Allied need for calm seas, light winds, good visibility, bright moonlight and low tides for the invasion. Rather, they indicated the approach of a deep North Atlantic depression, leading to storms in the Channel on 4 and 5 June. But reports from Ireland's westernmost weather station on the evening of 4 June signalled an improvement in Channel weather for 6 June. Stagg recommended postponing the invasion one day until 6 June. Any further postponement would have risked the loss of secrecy and lowering of troop morale. Eisenhower reluctantly agreed to the postponement and ordered the invasion for Tuesday 6 June. By the end of D-Day the Allies had established a beachhead and were pushing inland.

The Germans were caught unawares. Their own meteorologists had forecast that Channel storms would continue until mid-June, persuading Field Marshall Erwin Rommel to remain on leave in Germany with his wife's family, rather than taking up command of German coastal defences in Normandy.

A Love Story

One important figure is missing from the weather story of D-Day. Her name was Maureen Sweeney, then Flavin, and her role in the success of D-Day has only recently come to the fore. In 1942, the 19-year-old Irish-born, Maureen Flavin from County Kerry, travelled to Blacksod Point, a village in County Mayo on a remote stretch of the northwest coast of Ireland, to take up the position of postal clerk at the small local post office. The vacancy had been drawn to her attention by Ted Sweeney, the postmistress's son, and lighthouse keeper, with whom Maureen had fallen in love. Maureen discovered that the post office also served as a weather station – the westernmost in Europe. She was given the additional task of recording and transmitting

barometric pressures, wind speeds, temperature, precipitation and water vapour to the Irish National Meteorological Service in Dublin. Although the Republic of Ireland was officially neutral in the Second World War, its government did not object to meteorological observations being passed to the Allied Forces. At 1am on 3 June 1944 Maureen noted a rapid drop in barometric pressure and Force 6 winds heading towards the European Continent, indicating stormy weather in the Channel. At 11am on 4 June she re-checked the readings; they remained the same. She was instructed to re-check every hour. Early reports indicated that 5 June would be stormy; but later that 6 June would be just good enough for the invasion. Her reports were sent to James Stagg, who advised Eisenhower to invade on 6 June.

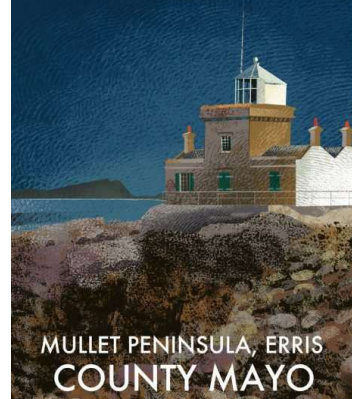
Maureen married Ted Sweeney in 1946. After a long and happy marriage, Ted died in 2001. Maureen died on 17 December 2023, aged 100, leaving a daughter and three sons. The Times published a full obituary on 13 January 2024.

James Stagg has recently been honoured by the British Meteorological Office for his part in D-Day, with the inclusion of his name in the official list of future storm names. So, look out for Storm James and remember the meteorologist and Maureen, the conscientious Irish postal clerk who both helped save D-Day from disaster.

The Roll of Honour on the British Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer, Calvados, records the names of 22,442 people from more than thirty countries under British Command who were killed in Normandy between 6 June and 31 August 1944.

We salute the few still living, some over 100 years old, who fought in the battle for Normandy; we remember those who lost their lives in the battle for freedom

BLACKSOD
LIGHTHOUSE



Artist: Roger O'Reilly
Lighthouseeditions.com

Youth Club

From age 7

Friday Evening Term Time

6pm until 7.15pm

£2.50 includes snacks and drinks

Contact: Jane Bessant

07776 305 660

Please note that there will be no youth club during school holidays



Coffee Morning

**Saturday 2nd November
10am - 12noon**

St Stephen's Hall

Everyone Welcome!

St. Stephen's Parish Church- Hightown



Toddler Time

A new fun group for Toddlers 0-4yr and their carers!

St. Stephen's Church Hall

Fridays 10am-11:30am term time

Play- Craft- Snack- Story- Songs- Fun!

ALL WELCOME!

Toddler Church

St Stephen's Church

Sunday 10th November 4pm

A service for pre-schoolers and their families

Fun songs, a bible story, craft and refreshments

We look forward to meeting you!

St Stephen's Church Hall

Saturday

2nd November

7.30pm

The Liverpool Shanty Kings



**Light Supper of Cheeseboard and Pates
Licensed Bar and Raffle**

Tickets £10

From Di Aldis 929 3612

Sue Taylor 929 2720

Event in aid of St Stephen's Church Roof Repairs

Magazine part—sponsored by John Gibson—notary services