

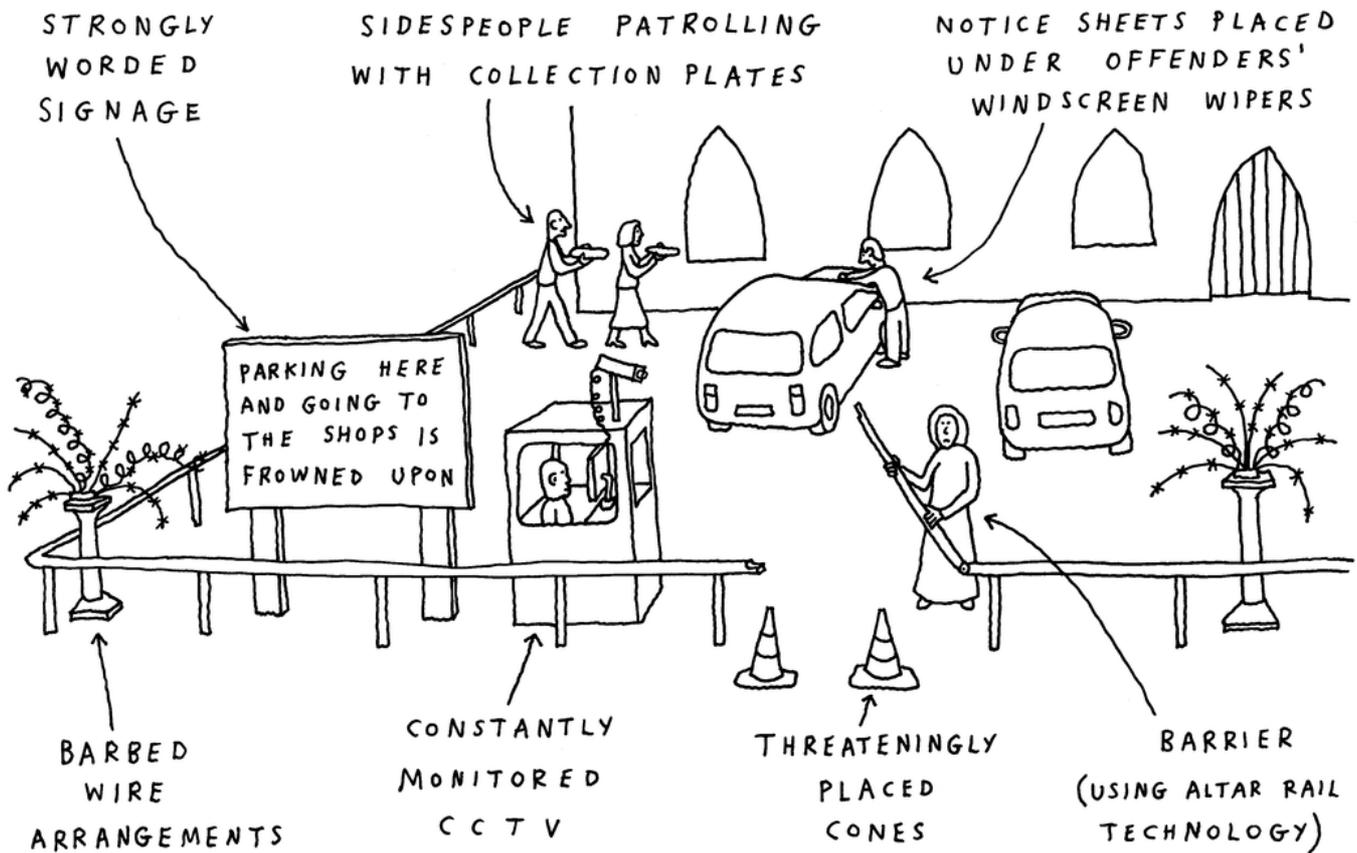
# THE COMMONER

ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON

29 JUNE 2023 ISSUE #54

## THE CHURCH CAR PARK

HOW TO DEFEND IT FROM NON-CHURCHGOERS



CartoonChurch.com

## ON CAR PARKING AND TREE PLANTING

Yes this is something of a problem for us from time to time - tho' let me nuance that a little. We're not so much on the look out for *non-churchgoers* in the church car park but for *non-paying users* (especially the perpetual offenders - and even more especially when they bump the newly planted tree in the process! Grrrr.).

And yes again, we have tried some variation of a few of the suggested defences, too. Whilst the barbed wire plants remain untested (to date...) a notes under the wiper is the typical first response, tho' with seemingly little more effect than a threateningly placed cone. It's really quite annoying when it happens and it leaves you feeling less than generous towards the owner.

Which is not a good way to feel if you can help it... and, I am very pleased to say, is clearly not how St Barnabas was feeling on our recent 125 Gift Day. Inviting everyone to make an ecological act of thanksgiving by giving £5.00 to plant a tree in Tanzania to help the church in Buhemba develop a sustainable tree farm, we raised enough to plant 800 trees (quick maths = £4000). Wow, brilliant, thank you and thank God - a more than generous response! I am really excited by that, as the church in Buhemba will be when they find out. Perhaps we can even imagine, as the bible does, the environment feeling good about it, too:

*Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy. (Ps 96.12).*

## 125 GIFT DAY



On Sunday 11 June, we kicked off the 125 period of celebration by a gift day and a goal to raise enough to plant 125 trees in Tanzania. As you will have read previously, we smashed this target and raised enough to plant 800 trees!

We are partnering with *Root One* whose goal is to plant 25,000 trees in Tanzania. They work with communities that rely on the land for food and income. Trees enable farmers to grow out of property, generating income that can be used for food and education. The scheme is also concerned with tree preservation, encouraging a landscape that encourages wildlife back to the area.

Above is a picture of Mama Enoch, one of the farmers that have embraced the scheme we are sponsoring. Mama Enoch has already planted 100 trees, and the picture shows her with one of the with one her *Grevillea Robusta* which has grown from 6 inches to 9 feet tall.

We can't wait to see pictures of the church in Buhemba starting to plant the trees gifted by St Barnabas Church.

## MUSIC EVENINGS



We were delighted to welcome back Sarah last Saturday for the first of three music evenings that have been planned for the *125 Days of Celebration*.

Last Saturday, Sarah put together a beautiful organ recital to the delight of all those who attended. The event lasted just over one hour and there was a small interval to allow people to get some refreshments.

The next event is on **Sunday 23rd of July** with the *Séas String Quartet* whilst the final one will take place on **Friday 08 September** with the *London City Brass*.

All the events are free. Save the dates and invite your neighbours and friends to join us.

## WINDRUSH SERVICE



This year marks the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the *Empire Windrush* in Britain, bringing 500 passengers for the Caribbean. The anniversary celebrates the contribution and achievements of the Windrush Generation.

We will be marking this anniversary on Sunday 02 July with a special service that will celebrate members of our church who are part of the Windrush Generation. After the service there will be an exhibition with stories and pictures of some members of the church and light Caribbean refreshments. We hope you can join us.

**Sunday 02 July at 11am**

## WARDENS



A picture of our wardens, Mike Burton and Joanna Burdett, taken at last week's Visitation service, the service during which all Churchwardens are sworn in by the Archdeacon. It was also Joanna's first Visitation service. We are delighted to have you both as wardens and give thanks for all what you have done and will do in this role.

## GARDENING MORNING

After the success of the last gardening morning on June 10th which drew a team of c. 20 volunteers, we have set aside **Saturday 9th of September** for the next gardening morning. No experience required, just an hour or 2 of your time. Save the date, the more we are, the merrier and there will be pastries and drinks to keep us going



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