

St. Peter's Church Harborne

Old Church Road

Birmingham

B17 0BB



www.stpeterharborne.co.uk

A quick introduction to the hall garden

In May 1999 the restoration of the land at the back of the hall commenced.



Large trees had to be pruned and two felled. Fencing along the whole length of the garden had to be erected. This involved a lot of work and money. A small group set to work to clear the site, and remove the burnt ash of the trees – very useful for the garden. A rough path was laid using pieces of crazy paving, set down in an interesting curve round the back of the garden. Enthusiasm was high. Soon a rain butt was installed, a compost area created and all sorts of improvements followed. The site of the old copper beech tree which had to be felled in May 2002, has now been turfed.

The whole site was once the Vicarage garden until the church hall was built in 1964.



Let's have a look round –



Entering the garden from the hall, on your left is a Victorian wall with a wrought iron gate. The wall was completely restored in 2013.

Nearby there is a small rockery garden. The rose arch was made by the students of the Queen Alexandra College, Harborne.

Walk through the arch, and again on the left, is a large Derbyshire sandstone rock. This is a memorial to a former vicar, the Revd. Angus MacIntryre and Puck, his wife. The rose bed on the right contains roses given in memory of relatives and friends. Various organisations have given the benches, arches and other garden features.

In April 2013, thanks to a legacy from the estate of Jan Walters, an attractive summerhouse has been erected in her memory.



(Jan on the right, photo taken around 2000)



On the far side of the garden, in 1999, three silver birch trees were planted together with a weeping birch which can be seen opposite the steps.



The arch on the far side of the garden was also made by the Queen Alexandra College and given in memory of a parishioner.

In 2012 a third arch was positioned near the hall to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. White climbing roses have been planted to grow over it.

We aim to have colour for each season. First to appear are some special snowdrops by the steps. Spring fills the garden with a profusion of bulbs, and herbaceous plants colour the summer. Autumn and winter reveal other delights.

Many people have generously contributed towards the garden both financially and in kind and we are extremely grateful to them.

The Garden Group meets every Thursday afternoon throughout the year. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Parish Office 681 1940 or ring 427 3170.

The aims of the garden are:

- To be an area for all to enjoy
- To be an added facility for parish life events
- To be a resource for floral decorations in church
- To give a pleasant outlook from the hall

Disclaimer: The Parochial Church Council accepts no responsibility for accidents or injuries sustained in the garden.. Please keep children under supervision.

January 2017