

InSpire



The monthly publication for the Parish of Capel & Ockley

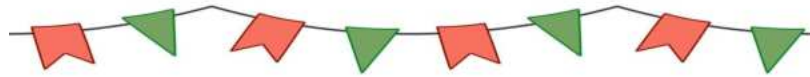
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
The Lord's words are sweeter to me than honey.
Ps 34:8, Ps 119:103

InSpire magazine Issue 107 September 2026

Free of Charge

Donations welcome in honesty box in wall
or digitally via the QR code





Rev Liz's leaving events

Sadly Rev Liz leaves us in October 2026, after 15 years of dedicated service and Ministry to the Parish of Capel and latterly the United Parish of Capel & Ockley. She and Doug have been an integral part of our church life and village life here and I know, will have touched the hearts and lives of many people.

Please do join us for Rev Liz's final service on *Sunday 4th October, 10.30am at St John the Baptist, Capel*. There will also be a *'Bring and Share Lunch'* after the service and all are welcome.

We will then look forward to Liz returning for the *Sung Concert on Saturday 17th October starting at 3pm* - please see details below.

Please do join us if you can for one or both of these celebratory events, allowing us all to say farewell and thank you to Rev Liz and to Doug as well.



The Editor

Sung Concert

**Saturday 17th October 3.00pm
at St John the Baptist, Capel**



The music has been chosen by Rev Liz to commemorate her Ministry with us over the last 15 years.

The choir, with the expertise of Anthea are practising hard for this concert. Do come along and support them if you can.

To include:

Byrd - Mass for Four Voices
Mozart - Ave Verum Corpus
Tallis - If ye love me
Lauridsen - O Magnum Mysterium

The singing will last for about 45 minutes followed by some fizz and cake!

Issue 107 September 2026

Contents:-

- 3 Contents & Church contacts
- 4 Rev Liz writes
- 5 Services & Events
- 6 News from the Pews
- 7 News from the Pews
- 8 News
- 9 The Sunday Session
- 10 News
- 11 News
- 12 Religious persecution on the rise worldwide and a Sioux prayer
- 13 The Curate's Diary
- 14 High Days & Holidays
- 15 More High Days & Holidays and Sudoku puzzles
- 16 Prayers, Prose & Poems
- 17 Silver Medal. Golden Faith - breakfast together with Olympian Tony Jarrett and 'Manifesto for Murder'
- 18 The Bible Society - podcasts and reading
- 19 'Saint Matthew - Called just as he was' and 'Capel Churchyard'
- 20 'All in the month of September' and 'The Book of Daniel'
- 21 Letter from the Editor
- 22 '25 years on from 9/11' and 'Clothed with Christ'
- 23 'What God won't ask' and a 'Pilgrimage from Winchester to Guildford'
- 24 'Dorking Foodbank' and 'Back to school: Facing that first day'
- 25 Reflected Faith: The Peace
- 26 Hornby trains & Dinky toys
- 27 Book Reviews
- 28 John Wisden and his 'Cricketer's Almanack' and 'Organ Donation Week'
- 29 Crossword
- 30 Puzzle solutions
- 31 Junior InSpire
- 32 Celebrating Capel Show 2026

"The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything."

Anon

Magazine printed by:
<http://parishmagazineprinting.com/>

Would you prefer to receive InSpire online?

You can register to receive InSpire via email each month OR download individual issues!

www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/inspire-magazine

This issue is sponsored by

Sue Clifford-Jones

*In loving memory of my husband
Neville Clifford-Jones*

(Thank you Sue for your support of InSpire magazine)

Church Contacts:-

Vicar - Revd Liz Richardson The Vicarage, High Lea, 54 The Street, Capel. vicar@capelandockleychurch.org.uk 01306 711260

Curate - Revd Gill Christie curate@capelandockleychurch.org.uk 01306 711917

Parish Pastoral Assistant: Sylvie Beckett 07711 849338

SAFEGUARDING:-

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Leigh Smith 07732 825908
leighdesouza@yahoo.com

Diocesan Safeguarding 01483 790379 or email: safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk

* See our **Safeguarding Notice** in 'News from the Pews' each month *

Churchwardens

Capel: churchwardens@capelandockleychurch.org.uk
Andy Carr 01306 712524
Stuart Cole 01306 711449
church.warden@ansford.me.uk

Ockley: **James Lee-Steere**
jamesleesteere@javesestate.co.uk

Treasurer: **Helen Burt** helenmb0909@gmail.com
Capel & Ockley 01306 711671

Capel Organist & Choir **Anthea Smallwood** 01306 711883
Ockley Organist **Andrew Collings** 01403 265794

PCC Secretary **Chev. Richard Winter-Stanbridge**
sirrichard@giganticworx.com

Eco Church team **Helen Burt & Stuart Cole**

InSpire Editor **Suzanne Cole** 01306 711449
inspire@capelandockleychurch.org.uk

Church website: www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk
Webmaster webmaster@capelandockleychurch.org.uk

September's Letter

Dear friends,

What a hard August it has been for us all. The rain we have had recently seems simply to bounce off the surface of our hard-baked lawns and fields. Despite the heat, I understand that the wonderful Capel Show was another outstanding success, along with Capel's Got Talent. I was sorry to miss these wonderful events, as we had a week away in Portugal — which was also very hot! This month, hopefully, the temperatures will continue to cool, and it is predicted that we are in for a very wet autumn and winter.

September promises to be a very busy month for our Parish of Capel and Ockley. We begin with a wonderful service of Baptism and Confirmation here at Capel with Bishop Paul. A bishop has not visited us for many years, and certainly not during my 15-year tenure, so this will be a very special occasion. Especially so for our candidates, some of whom will be baptised and all of whom will go on to be confirmed.

It will be a real Surrey Weald Team event, as, aside from one, all the candidates come from Capel and Ockley, The Holmwoods and Newdigate. Even at this stage of my final weeks here, it will be a new experience for me, as I have never had to organise this type of service before! It has been a real joy to do so, and I can promise that it will be a very special service indeed, and a wonderful part of my leaving this beautiful place.

Sadly, two of our popular older members of the church and community have died recently, as you will see in our registers section. Happily, though, we have baptisms to look forward to this month. All we need now is a wedding to complete the full range!

This month also sees the performance of our annual Murder Mystery Play and Supper. This year, we are extending it to include an extra afternoon performance at Capel. The Box Office is now open, so do book early to avoid disappointment, as they say! I understand rehearsals are going very well, and this year's play is set in the world of politics, so it promises to be a good one.

Lastly, our services calendar ends with the beginning of October, which happens to be my last Sunday at church. It will be a Parish Communion, to which all are very welcome to attend. You do not have to be a communicant to worship with us, and I know Doug and I would love as many of you as possible to join us on our final Sunday.

The service will be followed by the usual coffee and tea, but also by a bring-and-share lunch, to which everyone is again invited. We would love to see anyone who would like to help us celebrate our 15 years of ministry here and to say *au revoir*. If you would just like to join us for the bring-and-share rather than the church service, that is absolutely fine too — just pop in and add your name to the list.

Finally, I would like to add my own gratitude for those who work so hard in our villages and communities; to those who work tirelessly for our benefit in so many different ways. I know that Capel Show day is an extremely long one for committee members and others. That gratitude extends to our wonderful volunteers at church too, without whom none of what we try to do could exist.

With my love and prayers, as ever,

Rev Liz

vicar@capelandockleychurch.org.uk 01306 711260



CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS - SEPTEMBER 2026

at St John the Baptist, Capel & St Margaret's, Ockley

September

Wednesday 2nd Service of Baptism and Confirmation - Capel

7.30pm A Service of Baptism and Confirmation with the Rt Revd Paul Davies Bishop of Dorking and Acting Bishop of Guildford,

Saturday 5th Funeral

12pm Funeral for the late Doreen Edgill - Capel

Sunday 6th Trinity 14

9.30am Matins - Ockley

10.30am Family Communion - Capel

Saturday 12th Holy Baptism

1pm Baptism - Capel

Sunday 13th Trinity 15

9.30am Holy Communion CW - Ockley

10.30am The Sunday Session - Capel

Church for the curious, the questioning and confused!

Annual Murder Mystery Play 18th - 20th September

Friday 18th Murder Mystery Play and Supper - Ockley

Saturday 19th Murder Mystery Play and Supper - Capel
Doors open at 7pm and Curtain Up at 7.30pm

Sunday 20th Murder Mystery Play with Afternoon Tea
Doors open at 2pm and Curtain Up at 2.30pm

Sunday 20th Trinity 16

9.30am Parish Communion CW - Ockley

11.30am Baptism - Capel

Saturday 26th Churchyard working party 9am till noon at Capel

Sunday 27th Trinity 17

9.30am Holy Communion BCP - Ockley

10.30am Morning Worship - Capel

3-5pm Capel Church Teas

October

Sunday 4th Trinity 18

10.30am Parish Communion - Capel

This is Revd Liz's and husband Doug's last Sunday in the Parish. ***All welcome to come and say goodbye and join in a bring and share lunch following the service!***

All this information and more available on our Parish website:
<https://www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/>

NEWS from the Pews

PCC Members 2026—27

Vicar and Chair: Revd Liz Richardson (ex-officio)
Curate: Revd Gill Christie (ex-officio)

Churchwardens

Stuart Cole (ex-officio) St John the Baptist
Andy Carr (ex-officio) St John the Baptist
James Lee-Steere (ex-officio) St Margaret's

Deanery Synod:

Andy Carr (ex-officio) St John the Baptist
Shirley Dean Webster (ex-officio) St Margaret's

Elected members:

Helen Burt (Hon Treasurer)
Gordon Lee Steere
Wendy Goddard
Suzanne Cole
Sarah Pusey
David Silliman
Jessie Sutcliffe
Leigh Smith (Safeguarding Lead)

Hon Secretary:

Sir Richard Winter- Stanbridge

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Leigh Smith

Electoral Roll Officer:

Vacant

PCC Meeting Dates for 2026

7th September
9th November

PNP Meeting Our next **Parish Needs Process (PNP) meeting** will take place on the morning of Saturday 17th October at 10.30am. All are welcome.

Rev Liz is leaving our Parish in October 2026

See details on page 2 of events that are happening to mark the occasion.

Hope you can join us

From the Registers



From the Registers

In Memoriam

We remember with love

Bridget Downes
30th July 2026

and

Doreen Edgill
13th August 2026

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Churchyard Working Party



Saturday 26th September
9am till noon
at St John the Baptist, Capel

We are having another working party to tidy up after the long hot summer months. Despite the lack of rain weeds and brambles are taking root and it will be a good chance to get them back under control.

Bring along whatever tools you like to do whatever job you would like to do. There is plenty for everyone young and old.

Tea and coffee along with biscuits will be provided to keep all energised.

Thank you

Andy and Stuart

NEWS from the Pews

Used stamps for UK Air Ambulance Services

The UK's Air Ambulance Services are charities which receive no government funding and rely entirely on charitable donations to continue flying and responding to life threatening medical emergencies. All funds raised will be donated to the Association of Air Ambulances to be distributed equally to all UK Air Ambulance Services. All you need to do is cut or carefully tear the stamped corner from any envelope or packet that you receive in the post and start a collection.



Once you have a large bundle, would you please put them in a bag and take them into St John the Baptist, Capel to place in the marked box. Sue Partridge is going to post them when we have a good amount to send. Thank you to Sue.

Church Teas at Capel 2026

Sunday 27th September	3-5pm Capel Church
Sunday 25th October *	3pm All Souls service 4pm Teas served after the service
Sunday 29th November	3-5pm Capel Church

Our sincere thanks to Helen Berry for kindly putting these teas on for us throughout the year and all her delicious cakes and bakes!



SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

This notice will appear each month in InSpire

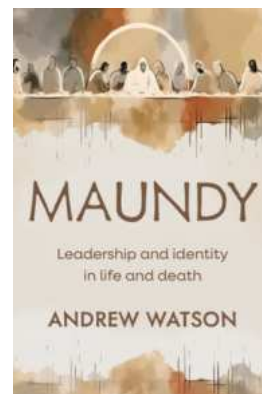
'The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the church. If you are concerned that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from a Safeguarding Adviser or if necessary report the matter to the Local Authority Social Care Services or the Police without delay.'

If you have any concerns please contact our Safeguarding Officer: Leigh Smith 07732 825908 leighdesouza@yahoo.com or Revd Liz Richardson 01306 711260 liz@hostmyserver.co.uk

Diocesan contact number for reporting safeguarding concerns: safeguarding@cofeguildford.org.uk or call: 01483 790379 **and the contact details for our Safeguarding Officer and the Diocesan Safeguarding contact will be published in our weekly pew sheets as well as in the Church Contacts section in each issue of InSpire.**
(Updated August 2025)

Bishop Andrew's collection of sermons to be published

In the weeks before his death, Bishop Andrew collated a decade's worth of his Chrism sermons at Guildford Cathedral, including "four last songs"; his final writings after receiving his terminal cancer diagnosis. The deeply personal and profound collection, entitled *Maundy: Leadership and identity in life and death*, includes a foreword from the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, and, of course, an introduction from Bishop Andrew in which he shared that working on this project helped to focus his mind on "some of the key attributes of what it means to be a Christian disciple and minister through testing times."



Speaking ahead of the book's launch, Bishop Paul said:

"Bishop Andrew's book *Maundy* blesses us with a precious collection of some of the inspiration and wisdom with which he has left us.

"It is remarkable that, in his final weeks, he managed to collate the addresses that he gave to clergy on Maundy Thursday in the eleven years that he was Bishop of Guildford. They are framed by his inaugural sermon in Guildford Cathedral, and his 'four last songs'. Prevented by his tear ducts in these last weeks of his life from listening to Strauss' Four Last Songs, Andrew exercises our tear ducts by ending with four beautiful literary songs he sang in January and February of 2026, just before his death at the beginning of March: his final confirmation sermon; his reflection for Ash Wednesday; and the two remarkable pastoral letters that he wrote to his diocese.

"This is a truly precious gift to all who knew and loved him - as well as to all who serve in ordained ministry, and all who are interested in knowing what 'cheerfully persisting towards a good death' in the faith and hope of Jesus looks like."

The book is available to order now and was published on Friday 19 June. More information can be found on [BRF Resources website](#).

C of E welcomes Government consultation on RE in the National Curriculum

The Church of England has welcomed a recent announcement from the Government that they will consult this Autumn on the potential of RE becoming part of the National Curriculum, for the first time ever.

This is part of the implementation of the Curriculum and Assessment Review as outlined in the Schools White Paper – *Every Child Achieving and Thriving*.

An Expert Advisory Group (involving both National Society for Education and Diocesan colleagues) was brought together earlier in the year to work collectively on these recommendations to the Secretary of State.

The group's work has outlined the core legislative requirements needed to both ensure that the current arrangements for church schools are preserved, and that high-quality programmes of study can be made available through the proposed National Curriculum.

The Rt Revd Jonathan Frost, Bishop of Portsmouth said: "As Chair of the National Society for Education, I fully welcome this government consultation on RE moving into the National Curriculum.

"This both elevates the importance of the subject as integral to the flourishing of every child in our nation and also preserves long-standing arrangements for church schools which make up a third of the state sector.

The Church of England will respond to the consultation in the Autumn, and the National Society for Education will work closely with its Diocesan partners to further embed the excellent practice in teaching, leadership and curriculum design across its schools.



BACK TO SCHOOL

"Give me a child until he is 7 and I will show you the man." Thus wrote Aristotle about 330 years before the birth of Christ. Wise words indeed. Children are like sponges at that age soaking up everything they see and hear.....*everything!* And why is it that the things that seem to stick in their minds more than anything else are those "slips of the tongue" that we're all guilty of every now and then. To paraphrase a well-know cliché, "One moment's slip - a lifetime on the lips!" Parenting is quite a challenge.

Of course, Aristotle was far from the first person to realise the importance of early education. *"Train up a child in the way he should go and even when he is old he will not depart from it."* Thus wrote the Psalmist a thousand years before Aristotle. With thousands of years of wisdom and experience you would think that we'd all be perfect parents able to rear perfect children. But if there's one thing that you can guarantee about the lessons of history it's that nobody ever seems to learn anything from them!

Perhaps that's why the phrase, "Every day's a school day", is so common. It's not just our children or grandchildren that need educating! So, at this point, you won't be surprised if I suggest that the bible is a good place to go if you're looking for help. After all, a good acronym for the word "bible" is Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth! If you want a good, five-star recommendation for the bible then look no further than James, who was Jesus' brother. He writes, *"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."* Or Paul, in his letter to the Romans, who said, *"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."* Hope? What an interesting word for Paul to use. We certainly live in a world where hope is often in short supply. We worry about the future for our children; about the increasing pressures of climate change; about the men who lead the free world by ensnaring people in ever greater debt and uncertainty. Could it be true that the word of God, the bible, contains words of hope and encouragement designed to educate and guide us towards a better way of living together? I can only suggest that you take a look for yourself. Maybe the gospel of John is a good place to start? Or that letter to the Romans from Paul? Don't worry if you don't have a bible at home. There are many online sites (www.biblegateway.com, for example) that are completely free to use and easy to navigate.

And if you want to know a bit more about what the bible says about hope, ***then come along to the next Sunday Session on 12th Sept at 10.30am in St. John's where we'll be looking at precisely that subject!***

In the meantime, whether you're a youngster going back to school this month (or going for the first time) or an older member of our community remember - every day's a school day.

Bob Cranham

I am too blessed to be stressed! - Anon

The shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor. - Anon

The Christian believes that he was created to know, love, and serve God in this world and to be happy with Him in the next. - Evelyn Waugh



“AI can act for the common good, but only if Governments remain sovereign”

The Bishop of Oxford has backed calls for the right of Governments to set policy and regulate big tech as he warned of the risks posed by rapid technological change.

Making his recent valedictory speech in the House of Lords, Bishop Steven Croft said there were ‘many gains’ from new technology but there were also risks to society in areas such as mental health, social cohesion, truth, and patterns of work and distribution of power.

Speaking of advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), he said the risks posed were partly a product of its accelerating speed of development.

“The speed of change, and the significant power unleashed, make this revolution distinct from other technical developments in the past, because there is a risk that the speed of change will itself undermine the very benefits that change brings,” he said.

“There is simply no time for public trust and confidence to grow, and you have heard of the growing public awareness of risk and the desire that something be done.”

Bishop Steven said there was an urgent need for a ‘clear standard and statement of intent’ from the Government, asserting sovereignty for Governments over the implementation of new technologies, that was “ethically shaped and in the interests of our whole society”.

He added that there also needed to be moves towards drawing together the “combined and collective power of nation states” to act on this issue for the good of all.

“The most important part of a building is its foundation, the most vital part of a boat in a storm is the keel giving stability in the water,” he said.

“As the world navigates the transition to the age of AI, we will need more than ever before the values and ethics of our common tradition, rooted in centuries of Christian faith and practice. AI can be a tool for the common good, a source of great benefit, but only if Governments remain sovereign.”

Bishop Steven was making his final speech after nearly 13 years in the House of Lords.

Children in care facing 'enormous challenges', General Synod hears

The Church of England dioceses have been urged to examine how they might do more to help children in the care system, in a recent debate at the General Synod highlighting the ‘enormous challenges’ facing looked after children and care leavers

Members voted unanimously to back the appointment of a lead bishop to advocate for the more than 80,000 looked after children in England, care leavers and carers. They also called on the dioceses to examine how they might provide support to looked after children.

In the words of one speaker,

“A lead Bishop could amplify the far too often unheard and unseen children and young people and their families, could encourage good practice in dioceses, and ensure that care experienced young people are not overlooked in conversations about housing, education, safeguarding, mental health, and the criminal justice system.

“Most importantly, it would send a powerful message to young people and their families themselves: The Church sees you and values you. The Church is listening.”

Synod votes to stand in solidarity with Palestinian Christians and ‘hear’ their voices in amended motion

The Church of England’s General Synod has committed to “stand in solidarity” with Palestinian Christians and “hear” their experiences while opposing antisemitism and anti-Muslim hatred.

In a long debate, Synod discussed a wide-ranging motion brought by the Diocese of Carlisle which laments the loss of Palestinian and Israeli lives and seeks peace and security for all the peoples of the Holy Land.

The motion was amended, changing a proposed call to “receive” the Kairos Palestine declarations – statements produced by Palestinian Christians – to a call to “hear” them as “heartfelt expressions” of their experiences.

Another amendment also speaks of repentance for the Church’s historic contribution both to antisemitism and to the situation now affecting the Palestinian people, reaffirming commitment to inter-faith dialogue, including Christian Jewish dialogue.

Much of the debate focussed on terms in the Kairos Palestine declarations written between 2009 and 2025 which have been criticised by some Jewish leaders in the UK.

Supporting the amended wording, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarah Mullally, told Synod that hearing the “heartfelt expressions of the lived experience of Palestinian Christians” in the documents does not mean agreeing with everything in them.

“The urgency of the situation in the Holy Land demands that we have difficult conversations,” she said.

“We must listen to those things that are hard to hear, and take the risk of engaging across divides. I also hear the concerns of the Chief Rabbi, the Co-Leads of the Movement for Progressive Judaism, and the Board of Deputies, and I thank them for their honesty.

“During my recent visit to the Nova Exhibition in London, I was reminded once again that the pain and trauma of the appalling events of the 7th October attacks have not receded: they remain a daily reminder for the Jewish people in this country, Israel and around the world.

“More than ever, we need a critical, respectful dialogue – that includes the voices of Palestinian Christians, as well as our Jewish and Muslim friends.

She added: “As a pastor, I hear the cry of our Palestinian Christian sisters and brothers – a cry that rises from the ruins of Gaza, and from the violence and oppression of the West Bank.”

Church to mark modern day martyrs in annual commemoration

The Church of England will have an annual commemoration for a group of Christians murdered by Daesh terrorists as a vivid reminder of the persecution of the worldwide Christian Church.

General Synod has approved plans to introduce an annual commemoration for the ‘21 Martyrs of Libya’ - a group of Christian men martyred in 2015 – into the Church’s liturgical calendar.

Modern day Christian Martyrs, the 20 Coptic Christians and one Ghanaian were killed after they refused to renounce their faith. They had been targeted specifically for their Christian identity, and they died with the words ‘O my Lord Jesus’ on their lips.

They have also been recognised as Martyrs by the Coptic Church and are commemorated by the Roman Catholic Church.

General Synod’s decision in July marked the first time that the liturgical calendar has been altered since 2010.

Bishop Michael Ipgrave, Chair of the Liturgical Commission, said the commemoration would fix “our gaze on a beach in Libya where the same Lord was confessed by men whose worldly power was small, but whose witness has become immense.”

The commemoration will take place on 15th February every year.

Religious persecution on the rise worldwide

More countries are persecuting people for their faith.

So reports the Pew Research Center in the USA. Its most recent annual study of religious freedom shows that the number of countries with *high* or *very high* levels of social hostilities involving religion rose sharply in 2023 (the latest year for which data is available).

Among the reasons are increases in the harassment of religious minorities and worldwide reverberations of Hamas' October 7th attack on southern Israel and Israel's military response in Gaza.

In 2023, 55 countries had elevated (high or very high) levels of social hostilities involving religion.

Pew Center monitors a total of 198 countries and territories around the world. After categorising incidents that have been publicly reported by the U.S. State Department, the United Nations and other international organisations, the Pew Center rates each country on two scales, ranging from 0 to 10 points.

The **Government Restrictions Index** (GRI) captures various ways that government officials, laws and policies can impinge on religious freedom. In 2023, 58 countries had high or very high levels of government restrictions on religion. Among them were China, Iran, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Syria and Uzbekistan.

The **Social Hostilities Index** (SHI) captures various kinds of harassment and violence by private individuals and nongovernmental organisations (including terrorist groups) that are motivated by religion or that target religious communities. Among the countries with very high SHI scores in 2023 were Nigeria, India, Israel, Syria, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

Among the religious groups, Christians faced persecution in the most countries: incidents were recorded in 165 nations.

Overall, Pew has estimated that 78 per cent of the world's population were living in countries experiencing high or very high levels of government restrictions on religion, or religion-related social hostilities, or both.

Nigeria retains the world's highest social-hostilities score.



A Sioux prayer

You, O God, are the Lord of the mountains and valleys. You are my mother and my father. You have given rain to make the corn grow, and sunshine to ripen it. Now in your strength the harvest begins.

I offer you the first morsels of the harvest. I know it is almost nothing compared with the abundance of the crop. But since you have provided the harvest, my gift to you is only a sing of what you have given to me.

You alone know how many suns and moons it will take to finish reaping. You alone know how heavy the crop will be. If I work too hard and too fast, I forget about you, who gave me the harvest. So, I will work steadily and slowly, remembering that each ear of corn is a priceless gift from you.

The Curate's Diary - September

"The sting of death is sin" or in the original Welsh "Colyn angau yw pechod". These are the words at the top of the central panel depicting a skeleton in the 15th century rood screen of St Eilian Church on Anglesey which I was taken to during my few days there at the beginning of the month. The communicants pass directly under this image every time they approach the altar. No wonder the 'fear' of God was so prevalent at the time!



Much more cheerfully and in keeping with my own personal preference, I was also taken to St Tudno's church on the Great Orme just outside Llandudno. Here the sheep (as pictured) graze in the churchyard high above the Irish Sea and since 1914, when an outside pulpit was erected, the congregation has had the benefit of their company during services. These days weekly services are held here (see photo below) through the summer months and only inside the church when the weather is inclement. [On the occasion of this photo I was not actually preaching I had simply been asked to stand and present some ideas for a talk appropriate to this location.



Needless to say "The Lord is my Shepherd" (Psalm 23:1) was the text which sprang to mind!]

I consider myself most fortunate to have enjoyed a few days away from 'normal' life in the parish. I hope others, too, have benefited from some changes to a daily routine whether staying at home or getting away, during these weeks of summer.

As always, if anyone has any prayer requests for any particular people or in respect of any situations, please do get in touch with Rev Liz or me on 01306 711917 or email curate@capelandockleychurch.org.uk.

Rev Gill

Rev Gill Christie
curate@capelandockleychurch.org.uk



High Days & Holidays - SEPTEMBER

17th September – St Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen

If you want to make the most of every minute of your life, and to use your various talents to the utmost, then Hildegard is the saint for you.

Born as the tenth child into a nobleman's family in the Nahe valley of the Rhineland during the High Middle Ages, Hildegard stood out from others by the time she was eight. That was when she began to receive supernatural visions from God.

Understandably, her family felt that this sort of thing was beyond them, and so they entrusted her to a woman called Jutta, a female recluse with close ties to the benedictine monastery at Diessenberg. Seven years later, Hildegard became a nun of the community around Jutta, and when Jutta died in 1136, Hildegard became the abbess.

But Hildegard was never going to be one of your quiet nuns tucked away somewhere. Instead, she was always 'out there', and bursting with vitality and energy. She wrote on a wide variety of subjects from theology to medicine, to nature. She composed hymns, chants and songs. And she corresponded with many people, including royalty.

Hildegard was a strong, outspoken woman who saw herself as standing in the biblical prophetic tradition, and as such she was fearless in castigating and reprimanding people whom she saw as needing to repent.

Her supernatural visions of God continued from 1141 to 1151, and with the approval of the Archbishop of Mainz, she recorded many of them. This collection was called *Scivias*, and it dealt with the nature of man of the Last Judgement. When the Pope also approved her visions and writings, Hildegard's fame spread.

In time, Hildegard's community grew so large that it moved to Rupertsberg near Bingen, from where she travelled throughout the Rhineland, speaking and teaching. Above all, Hildegard had a firm focus to her life: Jesus Christ and His redemptive death on the Cross. She was devoted to Him.

20th September - The Martyrs of Korea

Korea is known for its thriving Christian Church. But it was not always so – in fact no Korean had been baptised there as late as 1784. Christianity arrived in Korea through Christian books sent from China, and the Koreans responded warmly as soon as they heard the Good News. A Chinese priest who visited in 1794 found 4,000 Christians. This despite hard times: the Chinese priest was killed in 1801, and the Koreans were left without a priest for 30 years. Then Pope Pius VII sent a bishop, Laurence Imbert, who arrived in disguise in 1837, who worked with two other priests of the same Paris Missionary Society. Christianity was strictly forbidden by this time, and so the missionaries worked in complete secrecy, rising at 2.30 am and ministering at unusual times in conditions of extreme poverty.

And the Korean Church grew! Soon there were 9,000 Christians, who could not remain secret forever. Violent persecution broke out, and the three French priests allowed themselves to be taken, in order to avert massacre and apostasy. They were beheaded at Seoul on 21 September 1839. 78 Korean Christians died in the same persecution, among them Agatha Kim and John Ri. The first Korean priest to be martyred was Andrew Kim, in 1846. These shining Christians of the Korean Church were beatified in 1925 and canonised in 1984.

22nd September - When the sun goes edgewise, and daytime equals night

22nd September is the autumnal equinox (if you live in the northern hemisphere) or the vernal (Spring) equinox (if you live in the southern hemisphere). The equinoxes occur in March and September, when the Sun is 'edgewise' to the Earth's axis of rotation, so that everywhere on earth has 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness.

26th September - Wilson Carlile, founder of the Church Army

Wilson Carlile was born in Brixton in 1847 and did not set out to become an evangelist. Instead, he was brilliant at both languages and music, and excelled as a businessman. That is, until an economic recession and serious illness brought him crashing down and finished his career, aged only 31.

Not surprisingly, a serious breakdown followed, when Carlile questioned everything that he had been attempting in life. This search for a new meaning brought him to faith in Jesus Christ, and so turned his world upside down. He later wrote:

I have seen the crucified and risen Lord as truly as if He had made Himself visible to me bodily sight. That is for me the conclusive evidence of His existence. He touched my heart and old desires and hope left it. In their place came the new thought that I might serve Him and His poor and suffering brethren.

Wilson approached two Christians whose passion for ministry was already well known: the Americans evangelists Moody and Sanky, who were at that time in England. Wilson attended their meetings and supplied music via his harmonium. In return, he learned a lot about effective outdoors evangelism.

Carlile then prepared himself for a life of ministry. He was confirmed into the Church of England, studied at the London College of Divinity, ordained in 1880 and served his curacy at St Mary Abbots in Kensington. But Carlile wanted more than comfortable parish life, and soon began outdoor preaching again. He wanted to reach the poor, unchurched, of the community.

Carlile left Kensington to work in a slum mission, and by 1882 he was busy uniting the local Anglican parish missions into one organisation. Here his business skills in planning and organising proved invaluable, and soon he had founded the 'Church Army.' He then founded two training colleges, to train both men and women evangelists. After slight hesitation, the Church of England agreed to incorporate the Church Army into its structure, and even created the office of Evangelist for the Church Army captains and sisters.

In the years that followed, Church Army has done great work in evangelism, as well as in social and moral welfare. It helped support the troops during World War 1. Carlile remained honorary chief secretary until retirement in 1926. He died in 1942.

Police

A young clergyman, fresh out of theological training, thought it would help him better understand the world if he served as a policeman for a while before taking on a congregation.

He studied hard and passed the exams; passed the physical; and then came the all-important final interview. One question was: "What would you do to disperse a frenzied crowd?"

He promptly responded, "I would pass an offering plate." He got the job.

Easy Sudoku

	3			2			6
7	9			8	2		
8							
		5				2	
		8	2		3	9	
	6				7		
							9
		1		4		6	8
6			1			5	

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

Medium Sudoku

	3			4	8	9		2
		8		3			1	5
		5			7		8	
1	7	2	4				5	
4								8
	8				3	2	9	4
	5		8			6		
3	6			5		8		
8		4	3	7			2	

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

PRAYERS, PROSE & POEMS

Prayer for September 2026

Dear Lord, September – the month of new starts!
New terms, new groups, new friends, new hopes,
every year. Lord, be with us!

Lord, thank you for the new start you offer us when
we put our trust in Jesus. A new start that we make
once – and then can renew every day.
Every time we falter, you pick us up. Every time we
come back to you, you forgive us and accept us.

Thank you, Lord, for never letting us down, for
never leaving or forsaking us, that new starts with
you are always possible, not just in September.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Belonging to God

How good You are, Lord, and how near You are to
us –
so near that we may always talk to You,
be comforted by You,
breathe through You,
be enlightened by You,
find peace in You,
and gain spiritual nourishment from You.
Grant that my fellowship with You
may never be polluted by malice, pride, envy,
greed, gluttony or falsehood.
Grant that I may belong wholly to you.

*By John Sergieff (1829 – 1908) a Russian priest of
humble family, who became renowned for his
prayers which ordinary people could use.*

The Whole Earth Shall Cry Glory

Almighty God, Creator:
The morning is yours, rising into fullness.
The summer is yours, dipping into autumn.
Eternity is yours, dipping into time.
The vibrant grasses, the scent of flowers, the
lichen on the rocks, the tang of sea-weed,
All are yours.
Gladly we live in this garden of your creating.

*By George MacLeod (1895 – 1991; founder of the
Iona Community)*

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER



Loving God, thank you for the rest and
relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.
Today, we pray for our children as
they begin their new school year.
Bless them with joy at seeing
friends, excitement at new
experiences, and a love of learning.
Watch over all who learn, replacing
fear with joy, anxiety with peace,
and tiredness with energy.
Grant teachers wisdom, patience,
and joy in serving their students.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

A Confirmation Prayer

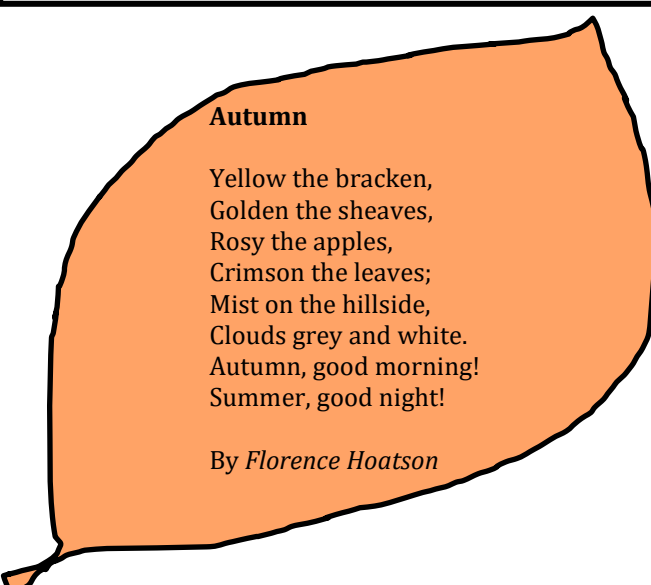
Lord, You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all
people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom
You sent.

Look kindly on all candidates coming for Confirmation
shortly at St John's in Capel as they listen to Your voice.
Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfilment the
good work that You have begun in them.

As they prepare for Confirmation, make each of them an
instrument of Your love. Deepen their faith in the Gospel
and help us to pass it on by our example.

We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us
all. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Autumn



Yellow the bracken,
Golden the sheaves,
Rosy the apples,
Crimson the leaves;
Mist on the hillside,
Clouds grey and white.
Autumn, good morning!
Summer, good night!

By Florence Hoatson

Silver Medal. Golden Faith.

Breakfast Together with Olympian Tony Jarrett

9.00am · Saturday 17 October 2026 Oakwood Hill Village Hall



Join us for an inspiring breakfast with former Olympic hurdler Tony Jarrett — a world-class athlete whose story goes far beyond the track.

Tony's 20-year career brought major medals, including 4 x 100 metre relay silver alongside Linford Christie, John Regis and Colin Jackson, and gold at the 1998 Commonwealth Games. Today, he mentors and motivates athletes, students and businesspeople across the UK.

Despite his success, something was missing. Tony will share how when he accepted Christ, the gap was filled — a powerful story of purpose, perseverance and hope.

Book your ticket today: Liz Thorne 01306 628227 or lizthorne2053@hotmail.co.uk

This is a donation-only event — suggested donation £10 per person
for those who are able.

Tickets are limited — book early and don't miss this uplifting morning!

It can now be revealed that this year's Harvest Supper
murder mystery play directed by Sylvie Beckett will be

MANIFESTO FOR MURDER

by Janet Smith

The venues and dates are:

Ockley Village Hall **Friday 18th September** with a two-course supper – tickets £18

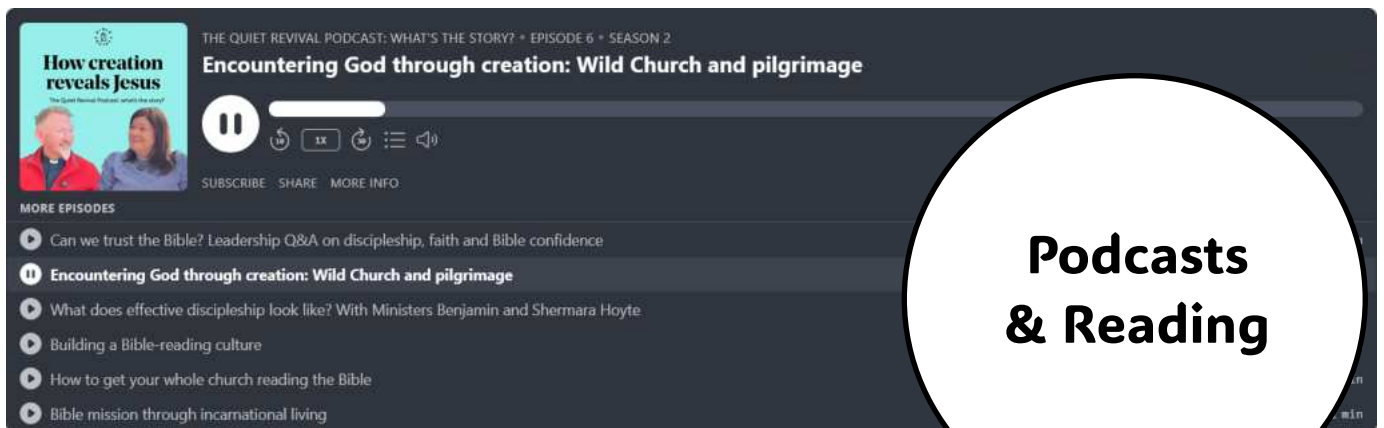
Capel Memorial Hall **Saturday 19th September** with a two-course supper – tickets £18

Capel Memorial Hall **Sunday 20th September** in the afternoon when an afternoon tea
will be served – tickets £16

Come along to see the events unfolding in the town of Smallbury preceding the election for it's member of parliament when (surprise! surprise!) a murder occurs. Get your team together and exercise those little grey cells! Bring your own drinks and glasses.

The box office opens on 24th August
On or after that date please ring Corinne Jay on 07718 346294 to book your tickets

The Bible Society



Podcasts & Reading

From the Bible Society:

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/resources/>

PRODUCT

Everyday Faith Bible

The Everyday Faith Bible helps you discover the Bible's implications for your everyday life so that you can learn to live as a follower of Jesus. Let Scripture transform every part of your life.

- ✓ Understand Scripture's real-world context (Head)
- ✓ Relate to experiences and emotions in the passage (Heart)
- ✓ Respond to what you read with practical action (Hands)

£ 28.99 /per Bible

Order your copy today > **What's inside this Bible? >**

To see what this Bible is all about, you can click on the link for a sample of the content.

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/shop/2025%20Look%20Inside/NRSVaue-Everyday-Faith-Bible-sampler.pdf>

“What do stories from long-past Mesopotamia, historical records from ancient Israel, or letters from Roman Turkey have to do with life as a Christian in modern Britain? In a word: everything. Not only is God’s wisdom eternal, but humans don’t change much across time. The Bible was written by, for and about real people in everyday situations that are still common today. Farmers and administrators; builders and civil servants; mothers and soldiers; musicians and lawyers; teachers and salespeople. From politicians to prisoners, all of life is here.”

The Everyday Faith Bible

Saint Matthew – called just as he was

This month we remember Matthew's call to be an apostle of Jesus and ask what it means for us to follow Christ.

Jesus calls us where we are:

Jesus saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. 'Follow me,' He told him, and Matthew got up and followed Him.' (Matthew 9:9).

It was just an ordinary day at Matthew's tax booth, when Jesus called him. He simply got up and followed! Despite Matthew's past, his occupation and what people thought of him, Jesus still called him. Are we ready to follow when Jesus calls us into a relationship with Himself?

Jesus comes to where we are:

'While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with Him and His disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked His disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?' (10,11).

Jesus went to Matthew's home and ate with tax collectors and sinners, demonstrating that He meets people where they are, despite their sin and shame. The Pharisees avoided sinners, because they believed only the perfect could have access to God. When God is at work in the lives of those we don't expect, allow Jesus to open our hearts to embrace what He is doing.

Jesus comforts us where we are:

'On hearing this, Jesus said, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but those who are ill.' (12).

Jesus came to save sinners and to give hope to the hopeless. The Pharisees were so committed to keeping the law, that they had forgotten God's heart of compassion. However, Jesus reminded them that they were witnessing God's love in action. In what ways can we express compassion towards others, especially those outside the community of faith?

*

✱✱ Capel Churchyard

* Over the past year we have done a lot of work in trying to tidy the churchyard
* up and make it more welcoming for visitors. As the days get shorter it is
* coming to the time of year to plant bulbs for naturalising. I would like to plant
* some bulbs to naturalise in the churchyard to brighten up the early months of
* the year. If you would like to buy some bulbs to naturalise and plant them in
* the churchyard yourself, the prices are as follows (these prices assume that
* you can Gift Aid your donation):

* Narcissus Tete a tete	£22.00 per 100
* English Bluebells	£34.00 per 100
* Snowdrops	£27.00 per 100
* Mixed Daffodils and Narcissus	£30.00 for 12.5 kg or £50.00 for 25 kg
* Mixed Double Daffodils and Narcissus	£35.00 for 12.5 kg or £65.00 for 25 kg

* If you cannot Gift Aid, or if you wish to buy for your own use, the price is 25% higher. The full selection
* available is at <https://www.dutchbulbs.co.uk/daffodils/daffodils-narcissi-by-weight>.

* You can send any order requests to me at Church.Warden@ansford.me.uk by the end of September and I
* will order and let you know of the payment details.

*
* **Stuart Cole**

All in the month of SEPTEMBER

It was:

250 years ago, on 9th September that the Second Continental Congress adopted the name United States, which replaced United Colonies.

200 years ago, on 5th September 1826 that John Wisden, British cricketer was born. Founder of *Wisden's Cricketers' Almanac*. Launched with 112 pages in 1864, it now runs to 1500 pages and is the bible of cricket.

175 years ago, on 19th September 1851, Wiliam Lever, 1st Viscount Leverhulme, was born. Co-founder of Lever Brothers with his brother James. Now called Unilever, this global consumer goods company operates in more than 190 countries.

125 years ago, on 29th September 1901 that Enrico Fermi, Italian-born American physicist was born. Creator of the first nuclear reactor, he became known as the 'architect of the nuclear bomb.'

90 years ago, on 7th September 1936 that Buddy Holly, the American rock and roll singer and hits was born. Killed in a plane crash in 1959.

Also 90 years ago, on 21st September 1936 that Frank Hornby, British inventor, died. Remembered for Meccano, Hornby Model Railways and Dinky Toys.

80 years ago, on 5th September 1946 that Freddie Mercury, Zanzibar-born British rock singer and songwriter was born. As lead singer of Queen, he sold more than 250 million records worldwide. Died of bronchial pneumonia resulting from AIDS in 1991.

70 years ago, on 25th September 1956 that the world's first transatlantic cable, TAT-1, went into service. It could carry 36 simultaneous calls, later increased to 72. It was retired in 1978.

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham continues his series on the books of the Bible.

What's the Big Idea? - An Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament: Daniel

This month we return to looking at Old Testament books. The book of Daniel describes his life in Babylon during the sixth century B.C., when he served both Babylonian and Persian rulers.

As a teenager, Daniel and his three friends were deported in 605 B.C. to Babylon, where he lived for over 70 years. They were trained as officials in King Nebuchadnezzar's court for three years. Their names and diets were changed to reflect Babylonian culture and take away their Jewish identity. However, Daniel and his friends showed the superiority of their Jewish diet and gained the favour of the king.

Chapters 1-6 are largely narrative, with Daniel and his friends (renamed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego) demonstrating that God is in control. The three friends refused to worship the pagan Babylonian gods and were thrown into a fiery furnace. However, they emerged unharmed because of God's miraculous protection. He also delivered Daniel from a den of lions when he refused to worship the Persian king Darius. Daniel also interpreted several visions and dreams for King Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar. The second half of the book (chaps. 7-12) consists of a series of visions, which show that God is in control of history.

The book affirms that God is the sovereign ruler of the world and rewards His faithful servants, as expressed by Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego: *'If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and He will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if He does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.'* (Daniel 3: 17,18)

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear friends,

Welcome to the September issue. By the time you read this, I will hopefully be enjoying sunny Corsica! Although when we looked recently, it was cooler than the UK! I have a feeling that is going to be the case more often in the future.

This month we have held another very successful fundraising event with the 2026 Capel Show. There were hundreds of old cars, bikes and vehicles and the ever popular Horticultural Society tent of exhibits. Helen Burt and Leigh Smith kindly organised the Church burger stall once more and we had a successful day, raising approximately £3,000. As always, it was a wonderful community event attended by many.

This month we prepare to say farewell to Rev Liz and her husband Doug after nearly 15 years with us. There are events marking her leaving and please do see details on page 2 of this issue. If anyone reading this would like to share their memories of Liz's time with us, please do get in touch with the Editor on the details below as I would like to do a special issue for October 2026 and I can only do that with your help and contributions!

Stuart has put an article in on page 19 where he has had an idea for brightening up Capel churchyard next Spring and would like your contributions! September marks many anniversaries—not least a birthday for me and our wedding anniversary! But there are many milestones such as the fact that it will be 25 years this year since 9/11 in New York city. There is an article on it overleaf on page 22. Many of you, like ourselves, will have been to Ground Zero and seen the National Memorial pools and beautiful church that is the National Shrine in the USA. It is incredibly moving and I'm very glad to have been able to visit and pay my respects to those who lost their lives, including so many emergency service personnel. The numbers are truly shocking when you are there.

September is of course the month children start school or older children start secondary schools or colleges. There is a special prayer on page 16 and there is also a special prayer for Confirmation. I'm very sorry that we will not be around to attend the Baptism and Confirmation service on 2nd September in the evening and I wish the candidates and their families every blessing as they begin their life with Christ.

There are many other articles and the regular ones such as Book reviews, puzzles and Rev Liz and Rev Gill's letters. I hope you enjoy the issue.

With my best wishes,

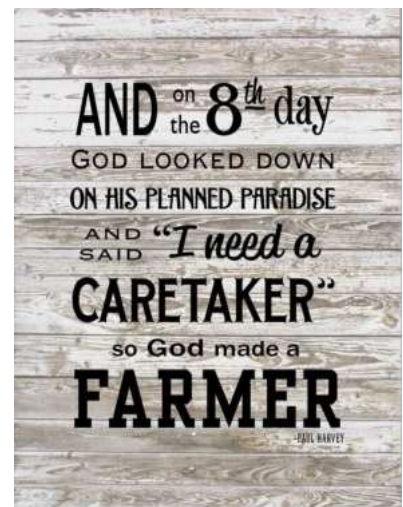
Suzanne



Photos credit: Helen Burt



Two photos from Capel Show 2026 ... one looking out from the Church burger stall and one looking towards it. Two perspectives on a hugely successful day!



Thinking of all our farmers this Harvest time, especially after the hot conditions this summer.



inspire@capelandockleychurch.org.uk

The Revd Paul Hardingham looks back on that terrible morning 25 years ago this month...

25th Anniversary of 9/11

Twenty-five years ago, on Tuesday 11th September 2001, terrorist attacks demolished the Twin Towers in New York. They killed 2,996 people and injured more than 6,000. Events like 9/11 raise the inevitable question: *Why does God allow such suffering to take place?*

There are no easy answers to this question! We cannot fully understand why such things happen, although we live in a fallen world, where people make real choices. Yet the Bible affirms that God identifies with our suffering, supremely when Jesus experienced suffering and death.

It is on the Cross that God knows what it is to lose a loved one in an unjust attack. *'I could never myself believe in God if it were not for the Cross. In the real world of pain, how could one worship a God who was immune to it?'* (John Stott). What does this mean? We cannot know why God allows evil and suffering to continue, but we do know that He does love and care for us: *'For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.'* (John 3:16). God loved us enough to fully engage with the mess of the world.

We also can view such events in the light of resurrection. Jesus said: *'I am the Resurrection and the Life. The one who believes in Me will live'* (John 11:25). Resurrection points to the restoration for us of the life we lost. New heavens and new earth point to a world and relationships restored and perfected! In *The Lord of the Rings*, Sam Gamgee exclaims: *'Gandalf! I thought you were dead! But then I thought I was dead! Is everything sad going to come untrue?'* The answer of the Bible is Yes!

By the Revd Roy Shaw, a retired but active priest in the diocese of York, where he is a spiritual director.

Clothed with Christ

Georg Philip Telemann, the 18th Century German composer, was an early collector of folk music, long before the vogue for collecting folk tunes in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, which in England drew in Ralph Vaughan Williams, Cecil Sharp and George Butterworth.

Telemann would travel to Poland and note down the folk tunes he heard there, which then re-appeared in his music and played for the sophisticated audiences at his concerts. He described the transformation of folk tunes to *concerti* as 'clothing the tunes in an Italian coat' - the Italian style being all the rage at the time.

The phrase 'clothed in an Italian coat' is rich in allusions. Peasant fustian becomes elegant and rich velvet or silk, in gorgeous hues which bring distinction to the wearer. From workaday to refined, the image speaks of transformation. It's possibly also a covering over of the ragged with something altogether more presentable.

Clothing is an image used by St. Paul at least three times in his letters. Writing to the believers in Rome, (ch 13 v14) he urges his readers to 'put on the Lord Jesus Christ'. He's urging an active participation in all that Jesus was and did, a daily mental decision to be as Christ. To the Galatians (ch3v27) he says 'for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ.' As it were, your old clothes won't do any more- you need the fresh clean linen which Christ offers. And to the Colossians Paul writes (ch3v12ff) 'clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience... And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.'

Clothes are important. They make a statement, say something about how we wish to present ourselves- smart or casual, formal or informal, conservative or outlandish. We make judgements about people (often wrongly) from how they dress. St Paul is taking these themes to a deeper level, asking that our character as Christians reflects and brings honour to the one who has invited us into his kingdom of justice, peace and love. I was invited some years ago to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Should I wear crocs, yellow shorts and a Hawaiian shirt? No contest! That would not honour the Queen and the occasion. A formal suit or nothing.

How does your character reflect Jesus? What have you asked to be clothed in as you have prayed? God bless you as your daily life reflects all that Jesus would have it be; may we all be 'clothed with Christ'.



What God won't ask

God won't ask what kind of car you drove, He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.

God won't ask how big your house was, He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet, He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.

God won't ask what your highest salary was, He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.

God won't ask what your job title was, He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.

God won't ask how many friends you had, He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

God won't ask in what neighbourhood you lived, He'll ask how you treated your neighbours.



Join the pilgrimage from Winchester to Guildford

You are warmly invited to join a five-day pilgrimage from Winchester to Guildford this autumn. Building on the partnership with Viborg Diocese in Denmark, this pilgrimage is open to clergy and lay people, offering the chance to walk together along the historic Pilgrims' Way.



Each day will involve walking 12 - 20km, with time for worship, prayer, reflection and shared stories, as well as opportunities to deepen and strengthen fellowship. The journey begins on Monday 28 September with a tour of Winchester Cathedral, followed by the walk through to Friday 2 October, finishing at Guildford Cathedral with lunch and a service.

Accommodation, food and transport are covered with no charge. Places are filling up, so please get in touch soon if you are interested.

To find out more, contact: Revd Tim Heaney, rector@parishofshere.com

Taken from Parish Brief 21/07/26

With many thanks to everyone for the continued support of the Dorking Foodbank. Thanks to Sylvie who volunteers at the Foodbank, we always have an up to date list of items they need at this point.

Do you have any plastic carrier bags you can spare? Please do continue to donate non-perishable food, personal hygiene including shampoo, body wash and disposable razors, together with sanitary items, amongst other things. **ALL items are gratefully received.**

‘DONATE TEN’

Could you donate ten items to the Foodbank,
or maybe make a direct debit for £10 each month or arrange
a one-off donation?

This month's requests for donations:-

**Peanut butter * Honey * Razors *
Shaving foam * Cooking oil * Lentils**



If you would like to hear more regarding this project
please contact: Revd Liz Richardson - 01306 711260
or Pastoral Assistant Sylvie Beckett on 07711 849338

Back to School - facing that first Day

No matter how old we are, we can probably remember our first day at school – being left at the door, meeting children we did not know, separated from the adults we did know and had trusted since the day we were born. But on the other hand, there was the excitement: a big step along the road of life, new friends to make, another adult to become important in our lives. Yes, quite a lot to handle when you're rising five!



And that's what hundreds of thousands of children are going to experience this month. Parents may have prepared them for it, and they may in a slightly apprehensive way be looking forward to it, but it must feel to the five-year-old like a massive step into the unknown.

Not much less is the anxiety of mum, who leaves her precious child, proudly resplendent in their new school uniform, in the Reception class-room. Will he or she suddenly panic, and cry for that familiar parental cuddle? Will they feel abandoned in an alien setting? Will they like the teacher?

Of course we'll be praying for them, and we know that like millions of others before them they will very probably eventually decide that their schooldays were among the best of their lives. But end of class can't come soon enough for mum on that first day! How wonderful when they come running out, laughing and excited, clutching a piece of paper with some obscure crayon marks on it – written evidence of their first day's education.

Reflected Faith Series - The Peace

Last time we reflected on the time of 'Intercessions' within our service. This month, we consider what comes next.

In a Common Worship Communion service, the 'Peace' comes straight after the Intercessions. There is no such thing with a Book of Common Prayer (BCP) service.

A time of sharing 'The Peace' is not restricted to Communion services, but may take place in other services also.

It does not have to follow the Intercessions, but instead could also be held towards the start or end of the service.

Where you place 'the Peace' is significant: having it at the beginning emphasises the community coming together, whilst towards the end of the service might be to emphasise the importance of being together that encourages and enables us to take God with us into our everyday lives.

But why have it at all? Haven't we all come together to this service to worship the same God? To be together with others who think and believe as we do?

Hopefully yes, but sometimes we just need a visible sign of that very unity and a reminder that we are a part of this community where we are, as well as a part of the wider church across the world.

It is so easy to forget this. To just go on repeat and not be conscious of this enormous honour that we have to 'meet together in His presence'.

'Sharing the peace' - however we do that - with one another is a demonstrative act of community. Everyone is included.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you – And also with you.

This month

Where is 'The Peace' placed within your service and what do you think is the reason for that? Does making a physical connection – however you do that – with those around you make a difference to your thinking about 'community'?

Pilgrims step out to mark 800 years since death of St Francis of Assisi

A group of Anglican Franciscans are close to finishing a three-month, 800-mile pilgrimage across the UK, to mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi.

The 80-day journey began in July in Alnmouth, in Northumberland, and pilgrims have been heading to Hilfield Friary, in Dorset, by September. They will then go on to the convent of the Community of St Clare (OSC), in Oxfordshire, and on to London, to the final destination, the Friary in Plaistow, Newham.

They are due to arrive in time for the global commemorations marking the death of St Francis, on the 2nd and 4th October. The pilgrims will join a service at Christchurch, Blackfriars in Southwark.

They have stayed in churches, homes, and parish halls. They will be joined by day pilgrims, and others doing just a short section of the pilgrimage.

More details: pilgrimage800@franciscans.org.uk.

Hornby trains and Dinky toys

by Tim Lenton

It was also 90 years ago, on 21st September 1936, that Frank Hornby, the British inventor, died. He is remembered for the immensely popular Meccano, Hornby Model Railways and Dinky Toys.

Hornby was born into a Liverpool working-class family and was said to have been inspired by the industry in the city. He was brought up as a Methodist and was interested in music, having a strong tenor voice. He met his future wife, Clara, when they were members of the Liverpool Philharmonic Society choir: they married in 1887 and had three children.

To amuse his two sons he constructed a model crane using perforated strips of metal held together with nuts and bolts. It could be dismantled and the parts used to build other things: this formed the basis of Meccano, which when refined proved hugely popular.

After the first world war he turned his attention to the construction of toy trains, powered by clockwork. At first these were made from kits, but it was not long before they were sold as ready-made train sets – a perfect children's toy. Dinky toys started as an accessory but soon developed into big-sellers in their own right.

Later Hornby, who was described as polite and a "keen observer of morality", became a Conservative MP for Everton. In his youth he joined the anti-alcohol Band of Hope and set up a number of groups and clubs dedicated to the improvement of society. He was a great believer in determination and the ability to overcome setbacks.

This enabled him to become not only a visionary but a practical creator in toy development and production. His persistence in adapting his original ideas and making them workable brought him deserved success in producing three of the most popular lines of toys in the 20th century.

The Pavilion Café

**Every Wednesday at Ockley Cricket Club Pavilion
9 am until midday**

Come and enjoy a warm welcome and a delicious range of
homemade cakes and savouries - including gluten/dairy free.
Bacon butties every fourth Wednesday and freshly made teas and coffees.

The Pavilion Café was originally the idea of Kindred Spirits,
the women's outreach group from Ockley, Okewood and Forest Green Parish,
11 years ago. It is run by a team of volunteers in support of charities,
local charitable causes and Ockley events.

If you would like to volunteer, please let Liz know on
either 07951 710176 or lizthorne2053@hotmail.co.uk



Book Reviews

Becoming Prayer – a Franciscan Guide

By Simon Cocksedge, Nicholas Alan Worssam, ssf, Canterbury Press, £13.99

Inspired by a vivid account of St Francis – where he didn't merely pray but became prayer – *Becoming Prayer* introduces readers to the heart of Franciscan spirituality. Drawing on the enduring wisdom of Francis, Clare and generations of Franciscans, including voices like Richard Rohr and Ilia Delio, it offers a rich and accessible introduction to prayer as a way of life. From moments of thanksgiving and praise to silent contemplation, readers will learn how Franciscans aim to pray not just in church, but in every moment.

Simon Cocksedge and Nicholas Alan Worssam explore communal practices such as the Daily Office and Eucharist, and delve into prayer rooted in Scripture – through the Passion, the Stations of the Cross, and the Rosary. They also embrace the stillness of solitude: night time reflection, silence and the Jesus Prayer. Rooted in a tradition that speaks powerfully to today's world, and published in a milestone year for Franciscans globally, this is an invitation to an ancient yet ever-renewing journey of prayer.

Called Through Cancer - Vocation, Vulnerability and the God Who Holds Us

By Lisa Barnett, Canterbury Press, £11.99

What if cancer isn't a detour from your calling – but part of it? In this deeply personal and spiritually grounded account, Anglican priest Lisa Barnett reflects on her own journey through cancer treatment and discovers a profound truth: that even in suffering, we are called. Drawing on the wisdom of St Ignatius of Loyola and her extensive experience in vocational ministry, Barnett explores how illness can become a sacred space – where God is found, faith is deepened and vocation is reimagined.

With honesty, theological insight and pastoral sensitivity, she invites readers to see each stage of illness – from diagnosis to treatment, vulnerability to recovery – not as a disruption, but as a vocation in its own right. *Called Through Cancer* is for anyone navigating serious illness, for clergy and ministers facing suffering in the midst of active ministry and for all who seek to understand calling in the shadow of pain.



Fantastically Faithful Leaders Who Gave Their All for God

By Paul Kerensa, Starshine Books, £8.99

This book brings to life eight extraordinary people from history who answered God's call to lead - and changed the world in the process.

Perfect for children aged 7 and up, this lively, laugh-out-loud chapter book introduces young readers to a wonderfully diverse group of real-life leaders who stepped up, spoke out, and served others - all because of their faith in God.

Faithful leaders include:

Sojourner Truth: former slave who spoke out against slavery and for women's rights

Lord Shaftesbury: social reformer who campaigned to prevent children from being sent out to work

Evangeline Booth: first female leader of the Salvation Army who received a medal for her work to help soldiers during the First World War

Madam C. J. Walker: African American business woman who was the first female self-made millionaire in the USA and who gave lots of her money to good causes

Billy Graham: evangelist who preached the gospel all over the world and led millions to Jesus

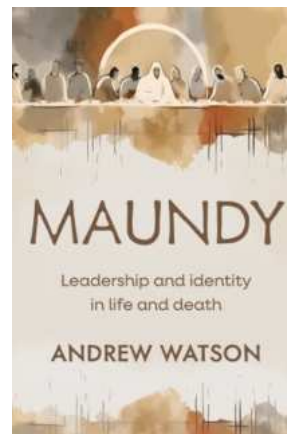
John Glenn Jr: rocketed into history as the first astronaut to orbit Earth and became a US Senator

Elizabeth II: queen who faithfully served God and her people

Demond Tutu: Archbishop who helped bring an end to apartheid in South Africa

Whether used as a family read-aloud, for independent reading, a classroom resource, or a Sunday school supplement, this book gives children real-life role models who show what ordinary people can achieve when they trust an extraordinary God.

See also page 10 for more details of the late Bishop of Guildford's book.



John Wisden and his famous 'Cricketers' Almanack'

Two hundred years ago, on 5th September 1826, British cricketer John Wisden was born. He was the founder of *Wisden's Cricketers' Almanack*. Launched with 112 pages in 1864, it now runs to 1500 pages and is the bible of cricket.

Wisden was a builder's son, born in Brighton. He moved to London after his father died, and lived with the outstanding Sussex wicketkeeper, Tom Box. Wisden was only 5ft 4in and weighed seven stone when he made his first-class debut for Sussex against MCC in 1845, taking nine wickets. He became known as Little Wonder.

He averaged 225 wickets a season for twelve years, took 455 wickets in 1851, and clean bowled all ten wickets in the second innings for North v South in 1850. He bowled fast, round-arm (before overarm was permitted) and was said to have had an extraordinary off-break. He was also a strong batsman.

Away from the game, Wisden began a cricket equipment business in Leamington Spa in 1850, and five years later opened a "cricket and cigar" shop in central London, initially in partnership with fellow-cricketer Fred Lillywhite. Wisden was also cricket coach at Harrow School and in 1867 bought The Cricketers, a public house at Duncton in Sussex.

In 1859 Wisden – by now bowling slow – was involved in the first tour by an English team to Canada and the United States, where he achieved a double hat-trick, taking six wickets in six balls.

Because of rheumatism, Wisden retired from cricket in 1863 at the early age of 37 and started publishing his annual *Cricketers' Almanack* the following year. Described now as the most famous sports book in the world, the iconic yellow-bound volume contains comprehensive match records, chapter and verse, prophecy, history and the occasional sermon. It is known simply as *Wisden*.

Organ Donation Week – 22nd to 27th September

More than 8,000 people in the UK are hoping for a life-saving organ transplant.

The primary organs that can be donated for transplant include the kidneys, liver, heart, lungs, pancreas, and small bowel (intestines).

This month's annual Organ Donation Week will once again raise awareness of the need for transplants, and buildings and landmarks across the UK will light up pink in support. The hope is to inspire people to sign-up on the NHS Organ Donor Register, and to encourage families to talk about their donation choices.

The NHS says that "Everyone has a choice as to whether or not they want to become an organ donor after they die. And if you choose to donate, you can choose to donate either some or all of your organs.

"By registering to become an organ donor you have the option to donate organs such as your heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small bowel. All of these forms of donation can greatly enhance or even save the life of someone in need." The NHS stresses that families are always consulted, making clear wishes vital despite opt-out laws.

Each year in the UK nearly 4,000 organ transplants are performed, using organs from around 2,300 actual organ donors (including both deceased and living donors.)

For more info, or to register your own decision, visit the NHS Organ Donation website at:
<https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk>

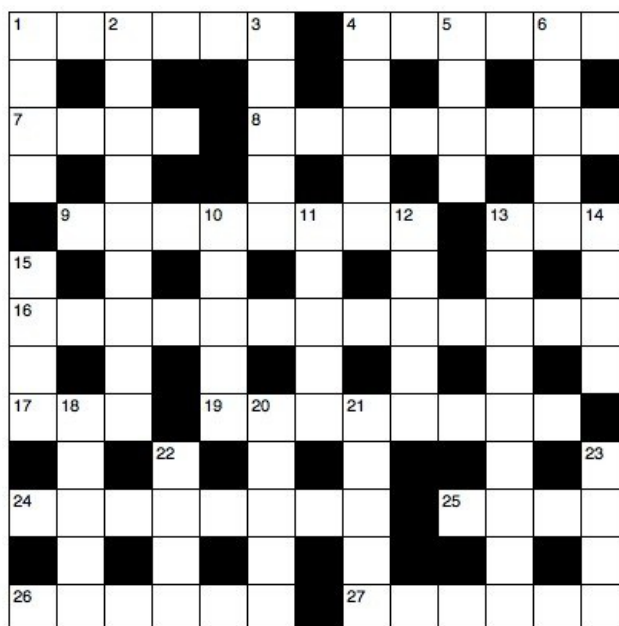
CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
 4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
 7 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)
 8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)
 9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
 13 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
 16 Members of the Church of Scotland (13)
 17 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (Matthew 5:1) (3)
 19 Mock(Luke14:29)(8)
 24 Disgrace(Psalm44:13)(8)
 25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4)(4)
 26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)
 27 Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

- 1 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)
 2 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)
 3 O raid (anag.) (5)
 4 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5)
 5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)
 6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)
 10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5)
 11 Do ten(anag.)(5)
 12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)
 13 Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)
 14 'Each one should — his own actions'(Galatians6:4)(4)
 15 Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)
 18 'But I am afraid that just — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)
 20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts(5)
 21 One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis46:17)(5)
 22 Be distressed(Proverbs24:19)(4)
 23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)



Puzzle solutions
on page 30

Puzzle Solutions

Crossword Solution

L	A	B	O	U	R		A	U	T	U	M	N
O		L			A		G		E		U	
S	T	A	Y			D	A	R	K	N	E	S
E		M			I		E		D		I	
	R	E	A	S	O	N	E	D		A	C	T
A		R		O		O		O		V		E
P	R	E	S	B	Y	T	E	R	I	A	N	S
E		S		E		E		I		I		T
S	A	T		R	I	D	I	C	U	L	E	
	S		F		S		S			A		E
R	E	P	R	O	A	C	H		A	B	I	B
	V		E		A		V			L		E
C	E	L	T	I	C		I	N	T	E	N	D

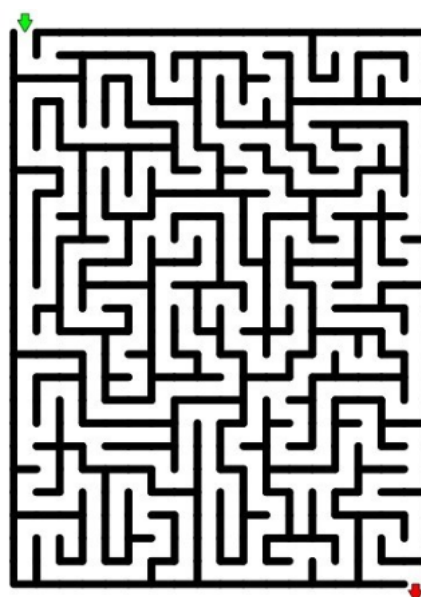
Sudoku Easy Solution

7	3	1	5	4	8	9	6	2
6	4	8	9	3	2	7	1	5
9	2	5	1	6	7	4	8	3
1	7	2	4	8	9	3	5	6
4	9	3	6	2	5	1	7	8
5	8	6	7	1	3	2	9	4
2	5	7	8	9	4	6	3	1
3	6	9	2	5	1	8	4	7
8	1	4	3	7	6	5	2	9

Sudoku Medium solution

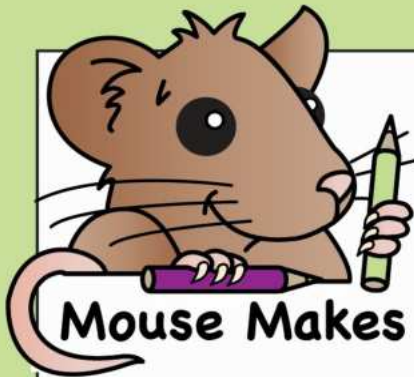
5	3	4	7	1	2	8	9	6
7	9	6	3	8	5	2	1	4
8	1	2	6	9	4	5	3	7
3	4	5	9	7	8	6	2	1
1	7	8	2	6	3	9	4	5
2	6	9	4	5	1	7	8	3
4	5	3	8	2	6	1	7	9
9	2	1	5	4	7	3	6	8
6	8	7	1	3	9	4	5	2

This month's Maze



...I take it our local supermarket has a rather good offer on tinned peas at the moment!

Junior InSpire



Mouse Makes



READ
John 15:1-17

THE TRUE VINE

Who is the vine?

John 15:1

What does Jesus
ask us to do?

"Go and bear

John 15:16

What happens
to the branches
that do not remain
in the vine?

Thrown into the

and

John 15:6

How many
times does Jesus
use the word
FRUIT?

What does
Jesus command?

To _____
one another.

John 15:12,17

How many
times does Jesus
command us
to LOVE
one another?

H T H R O W N A W A Y
I R A B I D E W I S B
D U F R U I T F U L U
N E R A J S I A M J R
C V U N F C U T V P N
L J I C W I T H E R S
E O T H O P J E S U S
A Y V W R L C R O N V
N G A R D E N E R E I
O S F J E S I S W S N
E R E M A I N F I R E

JESUS • I AM • TRUE • VINE • FATHER
GARDENER • FRUIT • FRUITFUL
BRANCH • PRUNES • CUT • WITHERS
CLEAN • THROWN AWAY • FIRE • BURNS
REMAIN • ABIDE • DISCIPLES • JOY



Capel Show 2026 ... a huge thanks to the organisers of the Show, several of whom are members of our congregation and a huge thank you to those who organised and helped on the Church stall! We raised approximately £3,000.



Your contributions would be most welcome and any copy for this publication should be sent to Suzanne Cole inspire@capelandockleychurch.org.uk **By 20th of each month please.**
If you would like to receive *InSpire* by email, you can subscribe to InSpire via the church website:- www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/inspire-magazine