

ABBHEY HILL U.R.C. MAGAZINE



November
2025



A Time to Remember

The well known verses in Ecclesiastes 3 referring to a time to do / a time for, have been mentioned quite a few times on the radio since peace was proposed for the war in Gaza, particularly “a time for love and a time for hatred”, “a time to kill and a time to heal”, “a time for war and a time for peace”. Let us pray earnestly that it is indeed a time for peace and healing for both Palestinians and Israelites.

November is a time to remember those who have been killed in the many conflicts over the past years, the Two World Wars and more recent and ongoing ones. Remembrance Services are held throughout the UK and some European countries on the 11th day of the 11th month at 11am [or nearest Sunday], the day that the Armistice was signed by Germany to end World War 1. [Armistice means ‘an agreement for peace’].

There are different kinds of ‘Healing’ including Medical, Emotional, Spiritual /Religious and Mental which require different approaches.

Anne Holloway recently led a Healing Service at Abbey Hill which focused on prayer, during which she outlined the number of ways in which prayer healing can be accessed at our church. In large number of ways it turns out There are general intersessional prayers at every service during which time the names of those known to us who have specific prayer needs are read out from the Prayer Book which Jo Williams compiles before the service.

There is the prayer circle to which these names are passed for further prayer, [to become a member of the prayer circle ask George to add your email to the group]. People may also ask George to circulate names of ones they would like prayers for to the prayer circle.

Inside the front cover of the magazine is the prayer diary, where in alphabetical order the names of the congregation appear against a day of the month for inclusion in people’s personal prayers.

There is also a Healing Group which meet regularly to plan healing services. There is the opportunity for healing by the Laying on of Hands.

Anne asked for our views on this. How comfortable are each of us is with this taking place in a service, [at the front of church before the dais , on the dais, at the back of the church], after the service in the vestry once, twice or three times a month. Please leave your thoughts (anonymously if you wish) in the prayer box in the porch.

Another way to pray is after Coffee Pot on Thursdays, 11.30 for around 20 -30 minutes. Issues / concerns are mentioned then silent or voiced prayers follow. It is enough to be present as Jesus said 'When 2 or 3 are gathered in my name I am there.'

After someone has died there is a time to remember what that person meant to us personally, to their family and to the organisations, groups that they may have been part of in their lifetime. I recall that when my father died and the children [aged 15 -26] were coming to their first family funeral that I told them not to be upset that at the Wake, if along with sadness there was a lot of laughter as memories were recalled. Laughter can be part of the healing process, along with hugs. Sometimes when words are hard to find or utter, hugs can express a great deal.

Prayer is the most important part of being Christian. Christ prayed with his disciples and went off into quiet, lonely places to pray. We are told that he prayed for an hour in the Garden of Gethsemane, followed by two more periods of prayer. If it was important to Christ to pray how much more important is it for we mortals to pray!

P.U.S.H. Pray Until Something Happens A Banner hangs on the wall in church urging us to do this!!

Anne Gilmore - Elder

CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2025

- 2nd Sunday 11.00 Family Service led by George Jones**
- 9th Sunday 10.00 Remembrance Service led by Anne Holloway**
- 16th Sunday 11.00 Family Service with Communion led by
Jane Woods-Scawen**
- 23rd Sunday 11.00 Family Service led by George Jones**
- 30th Sunday 11.00 Advent Sunday service led by The Home Bible Study
Group**



CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2025

- 7th Sunday 11.00 Family Service led by George Jones**
- 14th Sunday 10.00 Family Parade Service led by The Todd Family**
- 17th Wednesday 12.00 Memories Service.**
- 21st Sunday 11.00 Family Service with Communion led by George Jones.
19.00 Carols by Candlelight**
- 25th Thursday 10.30 Christmas Day Service led by George Jones**
- 28th Sunday 11.00 Family Service led by David Connolly**

Home Bible Study Group

This group meets at Hilary Scott's house on Wednesday evenings – 7.00pm. Contact Hilary for further details – 07749 836928

Treasurer's Report

The Harvest Collection for Commitment For Life raised £872.

September communion donations totalled £85. This will be donated to Water Aid.

The November Communion will be for Combat Stress. It is well known that many service men and women find it hard to settle into civilian life, Combat Stress helps them to overcome some of the problems.

David Connelly

The Abbey Hill Christmas Lunch

**This will be in the private room at The Almanac on
Thursday 11th December, 12 for 12.30
Do come and make this a happy event for everyone.
Menu and details from Betty Connelly**



Arlidge Charity

Arlidge's Charity, a charity dating back to the 1700s, currently has funds available for members of Abbey Hill URC to provide for 'items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress' of church members. If you or someone you know might benefit from access to these funds, please speak to George Jones. Strictest confidence is assured.

Many thanks, Donna Bloy

Discussion Group

The Discussion Group will now meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.15pm in the Vestry. Each meeting lasts about an hour. This is a great opportunity to discuss various subjects, chosen by the group, in a friendly and confidential environment. All are welcome.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 11th November at 7.15pm. The Subject, rolled over from the previous meeting, is What Is Truth?

Reform Magazine

Since 1972 News,, Comment Inspiration, Debate

Yes, this is written on the front of Reform magazine, the national United Reformed Church magazine. And on the Issue 6/2025 it also says 'Is Compassion Under Threat? A good question.' and 'Mission:13 words' and 'Dickens and Faith' and 'Place for Hope'.

It will soon be time to renew our subscriptions for the 2026 Reform magazines, so please let me know if you would like to be added to the list of those already subscribing. If you are undecided, you are welcome to borrow the church copy from the bookcase in the church porch (and please return it as soon as you can so that someone else can borrow it!) As far as I know, the subscription for the printed copy is still £29.50 for the 8 copies during 2026.

Thank you to those of you who already have Reform and I hope you continue to find it interesting and inspiring.

Janet Turner

Teams 4 U shoeboxes

Thank you to everyone who filled a shoebox or made a financial donation to the charity. The shoeboxes will be very enthusiastically received by children across Eastern Europe in the weeks before Christmas. We sent off 32 shoeboxes this year, compared with 36 last year.

Susan Cross

Pintogether

Advance notice that our next Pintogether will be on Friday 21st November from 7pm in The Green Man. All are welcome to join us for a relaxed evening of friendly conversation

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Regular Events				
Event	Venue	Date	Time	Coordinator
Elders Meeting	Abbey Hill Seminar room	1 st Wednesday every month	7.15 pm start	Elders
Discussion Group	Abbey Hill Vestry	2 nd Tuesday every month	7:15 pm start	Colin Ritchie
Managers Meeting	Abbey Hill	2nd Wednesday every month	7pm start	Ivan Pointon
Coffee Pot	Abbey Hill	Every Thursday	9:30 to 11:30	Betty and David Connelly
Community Listening Exchange hosted by coffee pot	Abbey Hill	3 rd Thursday every month	10:00	Ivan Pointon & Ed Watson
Repair Cafe	Abbey Hill	Every 3 rd Saturday of the month	2 to 5pm	Kenilworth Repair Cafe
Dates for Your Diary				
Project Joy 2 Art	Abbey Hill	November 1st	10am to 3pm	George Jones
Project Joy 2 Music	Abbey Hill	November 8th	10 to 12	George Jones
Project Joy 2 Cookery, lunch and final presentation	Abbey Hill	November 15th	10am to 3 pm	George Jones
CTK Advent Service	Abbey Hill	Thursday November 30th	7pm start	George Jones

Project Joy – part 2

Following the great success of Project Joy in August, we now eagerly look forward to Part 2 of the Project which commenced 25 October!

Please see below the poster promoting the project and the links to each event:

Session 1 Poetry: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/project-joy-poetry-session-tickets-1778059998319?aff=oddtcreator>

Session 2 Art and Craft: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/project-joy-art-and-craft-drop-in-session-tickets-1778166888029?aff=oddtcreator>

Session 3 Music: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/project-joy-music-session-tickets-1778196586859?aff=oddtcreator>

Session 4: Cookery: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/project-joy-cookery-session-tickets-1778226857399?aff=oddtcreator>

A press release has already been accepted by Warwickshire World

<https://www.warwickshireworld.com/arts-and-culture/celebrating-faith-hope-and-love-in-kenilworth-5352777>

Please feel free to share the poster and links with your family, friends and neighbours.

*Abbey Hill URC,
Kenilworth
Presents:*



*Free Events -
Everyone Welcome*

POETRY

Sat 25 Oct 10am - 12pm

Have fun crafting lines and playing with words to create poems. Based on discussions and prompts, we will focus on the theme of gratitude. Led by professional poet, Emilie Lauren Jones. Participants will be given the opportunity to perform their poem at the finale event.

ART & CRAFT

Sat 1 Nov

Drop-in any time 10am - 3pm

With four activity stations you can add to our Community Canvas, create origami, design a table mat, and create flower table decorations. Plus play space for younger attendees
With professional artists: Ellie Rose, Emily Tyler, Last Mafuba, and Mark Andrews.

MUSIC

Sat 8 Nov 10am - 12pm

Find joy in singing or playing an instrument in this engaging interactive musical session.

You will also have the opportunity to perform a group number as part of the project finale event.

Led by professional musician and teacher Kevin Stannard.

COOKERY

Sat 15 Nov 10am - 12pm

Join professional catering company Miss Ellie's of Coventry for a fantastic morning of food creation: from joyful fruit pots to leafy biscuits and cake decorating (for adults and older children). The food will then be served as part of our grand finale event that follows the session. Includes a play space for younger attendees.

**Plus... Finale event at 12:30pm on Sat 15 Nov
for sharing of food and performances**

*Events are inclusive: for people of all ages, all faiths (and none),
you can attend alone or bring friends/family - everyone is welcome.*

Booking is Essential for All Events

Please visit Eventbrite for the fastest and easiest way to reserve your space:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/emilie-lauren-jones-34042508069

or scan the QR code

Alternatively, call/WhatsApp: 078 0510 4743

or email: emilielaurenwriter@gmail.com



**All Events are Taking Place at:
Abbey Hill United Reformed Church,
6 Abbey Hill, Kenilworth CV8 1LW**



NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY FOR NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

A Happy Birthday to all of the following:-

November 3 rd	Mavis Duckworth
November 6 th	John McKenzie
November 16 th	John Spenser
November 18 th	Mhari McLintock, John Williams, Gill Littleford
November 23 rd	Heather Barton
November 26 th	Sandy Nunn

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

November 1st Bronwen & Martyn Todd

THINKING OF

We are thinking especially of Glenys Hobbins and family this month, as Glenys's husband, Cyril, died recently after a long time of ill health.

Vera Cooper is out of hospital and is now living at Priors House opposite The Nuffield Hospital. She is settling in there very nicely.

We continue to pray for Gaynor Watkins, Mavis Duckworth, Edna Dixon, Winnie Tawil, Esme Thorpe, Mary Skidmore, Janet Turner and Peter & Barbara Champion.

All of the above mentioned and any who do not wish to be mentioned by name, are in our thoughts and prayers.

MONEY SPEAKS

A well- worn pound coin and a similarly distressed Fifty pound note arrived at the Bank of England to be retired. As they awaited their fate, they struck up a conversation.

The fifty pound note reminisced about his travels all over the world. "I've had a pretty good life" he proclaimed. Why, I've been to London and Edinburgh , the finest restaurants in Manchester, performances in the West-End, and even a Caribbean Cruise."

"Wow", said the pound coin. "You've really had an exciting life!"

"So tell me," says the fifty, "where have you been throughout your lifetime?"

The coin replies, "Oh I've been to the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church and the URC...."

The fifty pound note interrupts, " What's a church?"

Found in St. Annes URC Church magazine!

Please let Pat Cowan know on 01926 313904 if you have any news of the Church family which you would like included.

HARO HORSFIELD – A TRIBUTE FROM SARAH AND FAMILY

Harokuku Avoha, Haro to her friends and 'Betty' to myself (Sarah) and Ellie was born in the village of Keke in the Gulf province of Papua New Guinea on May 26th 1946... or 1948! The family story goes that grandfather Avoha, known as Bubu, (the PNG term for an elder or grandparent), mixed up the years with her sister Sairi and so her actual year of birth is not known - but her British passport said 1946 so many years later mum was extremely pleased to be getting her pension 2 years early!

Mum was the youngest of six siblings and as a young girl went to church boarding school and later became a primary school teacher on one of the London Missionary Society mission stations where she met Donald and they married in 1971. Six years later I was born in Port Moresby, PNG, and in 1979 my beautiful younger sister Elizabeth (Ellie) was born in Bolton, England. Shortly after Ellie's birth we all moved to Cambridge Terrace Congregational Church in Wellington New Zealand for a couple of years where we had a very happy childhood with lots of memories of swimming in the sea, cycling and where mum honed her cooking skills and gardening skills growing flowers and vegetables.

In 1982 we returned to Westhoughton, Lancashire and lived with Grandma Doreen, Dad's mum, for a few months before moving again to Abbey Hill Church, Kenilworth. We always considered 24 Greville Road to be our family home.

During many wonderful years living in Kenilworth, raising myself and Ellie, Haro made many special friendships and became a much loved and valued member of the community. However there came a time for another change. Mum and Dad decided to relocate to their second home, Church Stretton, a place where we had enjoyed many family holidays, delighting in its natural beauty and as many of you know and have joined them both on, incredible scenic walks. I'm sure it reminded mum in some ways of her childhood days playing in the PNG hills that surrounded her village.

As she had in Kenilworth, mum fully embraced the joys of living in Church Stretton, making many great friends and again becoming an active member of the church community and getting involved in church groups and being an elder. Being a typical teenager I wasn't really aware at the time of how involved and committed and selfless mum was with her role as 'minister's wife' – her very good friend Jane will say more about this significant part of her life separately.

Mum was also an incredibly devoted and generous wife to Donald; leaving her whole family to move to NZ and then England with only very occasional visits back to PNG

She was also an incredibly strong, caring and resilient woman; she nurtured Ellie through her mental health issues and then breast cancer before Ellie tragically passed away in 2018. We all still miss Ellie very much. While still living in Shropshire and not long after Ellie's passing mum beat the odds and overcame necrotising fasciitis becoming a 'necrotising fasciitis survivor' in 2021. An incredible triumph! But, just after being given the all clear, she was then very sadly diagnosed with leukaemia which she also faced with her characteristic stoicism and positivity.

In 2023 mum and dad returned to Kenilworth to be closer to family and good friends. This meant that she was nearer her grandson's Reuben and Joseph and she was able to visit us all in London a few times – memories of which we will cherish.

At this time she was given first rate care at the wonderful Aylesford Unit, Warwick Hospital to whom we are extremely grateful. I'm sure the nurses and other patients won't forget the lady who had most of the transfusion unit singing along to UB40's Red Red Wine.

For the last 4 years myself and James have been lucky enough to be looking after mum, which has meant plenty laughs, great times and interesting long conversations about everything and anything. Although we knew this day was coming mum's passing still has come as a shock to us all.

Continued.....

She was beautiful inside and out and loved flowers, snacks (sweet and savoury), having fun, her grandsons, spicy food, daytime TV, anything tropical, dancing and bright colours.

Thank you all for your kind messages of sympathy. It has been a real comfort for Dad and us to read your memories of mum.

Sarah, Donald, James, Reuben and Joseph

A word from Jane Woods-Scawen

I first met Haro in 1988 when Donald took up the role as Minister of Abbey Hill Church. Whilst Donald held the formal role, Haro, as the “Minister’s Wife” immediately became known within Abbey Hill and the wider community as a committed, caring and selfless person becoming a dear friend to so many. This friendship was repeated following the move to Church Stretton.

Haro brought the gifts of caring and compassion (together with wonderful food; casseroles, pies and cakes and offerings of plants from her several gardens in Kenilworth and Church Stretton). She will be dearly missed by all who came into contact with her.

There are so many memories I could include here of croquet matches on the lawn at Greville Road, social events at Abbey Hill, Haro talking about her childhood and life in her village in Papua New Guinea and many years of evenings spent with “Vintage Readers” (Jennifer and Robert, Lorna and John, Brian and me and latterly John too). Everyone will have their own special memories of time spent with Haro.

Finally, I want to say that it was a privilege to spend time with Haro during her last weeks and months. It was never a chore, always a joy. Haro never complained about her illnesses and always wanted to steer the conversation to more positive matters – her family, especially her grandsons Reuben and Joseph and, like Sarah, we talked about anything and everything.

God bless Haro and thanks from us all for all your love and friendship.



Kenilworth
**YOUTH
FOR CHRIST**

FUNDRAISER

Help us raise more money than ever before!

Cake Sales / Fitness Challenge / Knitting /
Movie Marathon... **What Could You Do?**

Email us to find out more:
centre@kenilworthyfc.co.uk



Kenilworth Youth for Christ are aiming to raise **£15,000** over the course of this next academic year. With one challenge down (a 20 mile journey down the Oxford Canal in a 2 man blowup Kayak from Aldi.... yes it was as fun as it sounds!) and many more to come, we need your help!

So far this term we have:

- Reached **800+** young people in assemblies.
- **60+** in debates, alongside Premier Unbelievable?
- **50+** New young people engaged in Lunch Clubs
- **60+** young people engaged during RE lessons

Help us reach more young people than ever!

Please give by either:

- Visit our fundraising page www.justgiving.com/campaign/fuelthefuture
- Become a monthly supporter or give a one off gift www.kenilworth.yfc.co.uk

Thanks!

Dave Boyle

Centre Director

Kenilworth Youth for Christ
c/o St John the Evangelist,
205 Warwick Rd,
Kenilworth, CV8 1HY

When there is no peace

They dress the wound of My people as though it were not serious. "Peace, peace," they say, when there is no peace. (Jeremiah 6:14)

I wonder what peace felt like in 1945, after 9th May or 16th August? These, of course, were the days after Victory in Europe Day and then Victory in Japan Day. Once the parties and hangovers were cleared up, life would go on as before, for many months to come: with shortages, rationing, men overseas, houses bombed and people on the move. On the continent and in the Far East it was much worse.

What does it feel like now? Yes, we have had 'peace' of sorts in most of Europe between the major continental powers for decades, which is an achievement, but there is no peace in Ukraine, the Middle East or Sudan. If anything, the world is now looking to be a more dangerous place.

This verse from the prophet Jeremiah was the theme of a sermon recently. The preacher talked about peace making, peace keeping and a lasting peace, which are not the same and require different skills. In and after the Second World War *peace making* meant winning the war and defeating evil. *Peace keeping* was occupying the defeated lands until they could establish communities built on democracy and justice. (The preacher was born exactly nine months after either VE or VJ Day, so he was a 'child of peace'!)

What about a *lasting peace*? Many world leaders say, "Peace, Peace" but they mean only *peace on their terms* and do not care about anything else.

As Christians we should:

Pray for the *peace makers*: the women and men in the forces

Pray for *peace keepers*: the experts helping to build new societies

Pray for *lasting peace*: the willingness of world leaders and politicians to act for the greater good.

David Pickup

Remembering Lord Tennyson

It was 175 years ago, on 19th November 1850, that Alfred, Lord Tennyson became Poet Laureate of the UK until his death in 1892. He succeeded William Wordsworth and became known as the poet of the Victorian age.

Born in Somersby, Lincolnshire, in 1809, he was one of 11 children of a mentally unstable and embittered clergyman. All the surviving children, some of whom were talented individuals, suffered at least one mental breakdown.

Tennyson wrote poetry from a very early age and used it as a distraction. It was not until he went to Trinity College, Cambridge that he became happy, partly because he was popular there and partly because of the close four-year friendship he struck up with the brilliant Arthur Hallam, who sadly died young.

In the 1830s and 40s Tennyson published many poems and was granted a £200 pension by the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Peel, but it was in 1850 that everything changed: he married Emily Sellwood – an author in her own right – and the elegies on Hallam that he had been writing over the years were published as *In Memoriam*, to great acclaim from reviewers, public and Queen Victoria herself, leading to his appointment as Poet Laureate.

He and his wife moved to the Isle of Wight, and for the rest of his life he lived there or in Surrey. He was granted a peerage by Gladstone in 1883. His accumulated poetry, admired technically for its imagery, verbal dexterity and underlying melodies, came to epitomise the age he lived in, where established Christian faith was challenged by scientific doubt.

Towards the end of his life there was criticism of his style from newer schools of poetry, but a more balanced view now prevails, with a widespread recognition of his greatness.

Sullivan – of Gilbert and Sullivan

Some 125 years ago, on 22nd November 1900, Arthur Sullivan, the British composer, died. Best known for his collaborations with the dramatist W S Gilbert on light operas including *HMS Pinafore* and *The Pirates of Penzance*, he also wrote the music to the hymn *Onward, Christian Soldiers*.

Sullivan was born in 1832 in Lambeth. His Irish-born father Thomas was a military bandmaster, clarinettist and music teacher who, from 1845 to 1857 was based at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, where his son became proficient on many of the band's instruments and composed an anthem, *By the Waters of Babylon*, when he was eight.

Arthur was drawn to classical and spiritual music of various kinds, and his huge success with Gilbert was awkward for him, as he often felt – encouraged by certain reviewers and others – that he was “capable of higher art”. He was knighted by Queen Victoria in 1883, and the musical establishment felt this should end his involvement with comic opera.

Sullivan was inclined to agree, but he was also aware of the quality - and popularity - of his work with Gilbert. He had told an American reporter in 1879: “His ideas are as suggestive for music as they are quaint and laughable. His numbers ... always give me musical ideas.”

By 1885 the duo had completed *The Mikado*, their most successful work, which ran for 672 performances.

Sullivan never married, though he had close relationships with a number of women, including the American socialite and singer Fanny Ronalds. He was devoted to his mother and also to his nephews and nieces after his brother Fred died at an early age.

Persistent kidney disease often meant that Sullivan had to conduct sitting down. He died of heart failure following bronchitis. His *Te Deum Laudamus* was performed posthumously.

‘He gave us eyes to see them’: Zubarán’s ‘Jacob and his twelve sons’

In the Old Testament the story of Jacob is a vivid saga of struggle and conflict: Jacob vies with his brother Esau, he has a difficult time with Laban, there are tensions in his family, and finally he wrestles with a divine stranger. And yet in the book of Genesis his days end with promises from God: he will be blessed with descendants, a land, fruitfulness and the assurance of God’s presence with him. He is given a new name and a new destiny as ‘Israel.’ We sense all this struggle and blessing in a remarkable series of thirteen paintings, ‘Jacob and his twelve sons’ by the Spanish artist, Francisco Zubarán.



They hang in the dining room of Auckland Castle at Bishop Auckland. Bishop Auckland grew as a thriving market town and then in the industrial age became the centre of the Durham coal industry. It was also the site for the prince bishop of Durham’s palace. In the medieval period the bishop was as powerful as the monarch of the land, with an army that rivalled the king’s own forces. Auckland Castle became the country seat for the prince bishops, and in the 18th century Bishop Richard Trevor made the palace more Gothic and imposing than ever before. To mark the 1753 Act that allowed Jews to be naturalised in England, he purchased the portraits of Jacob and his sons by Zubarán for £124.

Zubarán normally painted monks and saints, and this particular series was meant for the colonies. But they were seized by pirates and then sold to a London merchant. The one depicting Benjamin was bought by Lord Ancaster, and so Bishop Trevor was only able to buy twelve. He commissioned Arthur Pond, a jobbing painter, to make an exact copy of Benjamin to complete his set. The series of canvases, each eight feet tall, was in the news recently when there was a possibility

they might be sold. They were saved by a Trust, now dedicated to developing the site of the Castle, which includes not just the dining room, where the paintings hang, but a very fine chapel of St Peter, a throne room, and beautiful gardens.



Jacob and his sons are each painted against the daylight sky, and each has its individual characteristics. Judah for instance is clad in a brown and gold garment with a gold circlet crowning his head as the ancestor of King David and Joseph, the husband of Mary. Gad is a strong soldier. Jacob, the father of these twelve sons, is a bearded old man, bowed down with the weight, not just of his years of struggle, but perhaps also the burden of destiny laid on his shoulders as both a blessing and a responsibility. For in the Old Testament, we learn that God often chooses the ones overlooked by the world: the young boy David above his more likely brothers, Isaac above Ishmael, and in the saga behind these impressive paintings of Zubarán, Jacob, the second born son, but here blessed as the father of God's people.

Who Cares ? Do you?

The church recently invited 'Reyousable' a business run by a family in Leamington who offer household items that are mostly free of single use plastic.... But little plastic that has been reclaimed from the sea is used very sparingly to give talk about their business and products to the church. The other churches in Kenilworth and District were invited.

The support was somewhat disappointing, both from Abbey Hill and the other churches. Those present were obviously impressed by what they heard and saw as many products were purchased.

We were told that the ubiquitous J cloth contains micro beads as does the green pot scourer. All washing into the waterways, and into food production and ultimately us.

We are full of micro plastic through micro plastics now being in everything on the planet!!! Yet it would seem that we are not prepared to try and reduce the plastics that are the cause. Someone in the States has paid to have their blood cleansed of micro plastics!!!

Very sadly in August this year a global treaty that was to create a binding agreement to end plastic pollution was not signed, after many months of discussion.

Also, very sadly an attempt to reduce carbon in the atmosphere with a change to the type of fuel used by the shipping industry was scuppered at the last moment by the USA and some of the big oil producers. 'Bunker' fuel [the dregs after all refining] is used by most shipping and produces a huge amount of CO₂.

In the 60's a computer climate model showed that; that the Arctic would heat 2-3 times more than the rest of the world but that Antarctic would only warm slowly. These two have recently been proven to be correct.

There is great concern that we are running out of time to prevent the world heating up by 1.5%. COP 30 is taking place in Belem, Brazil 6th - 21st November this year. Pray, Pray, Pray that there will be some good outcomes from this Gathering that will help **our Planet of *which as God's 'feet on the ground' we are custodians.!!!***

At present Abbey Hill has no 'Green Group'. If you care, Are you prepared to step up?

Anne Gilmore

All in the month of November

175 years ago, on 19th November 1850 that Alfred, Lord Tennyson, became Poet Laureate of the UK (until 1892).

125 years ago, on 22nd November 1900 that Arthur Sullivan, British composer, died. Best known for his collaborations with the dramatist W S Gilbert on operas including H.M.S. Pinafore and The Pirate of Penzance. He also wrote the hymn Onward, Christian Soldiers.

100 years ago, on 10th November 1925 that Richard Burton, Welsh stage and film actor was born. Known for Cleopatra, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? And many more. Fifth and sixth husband of Elizabeth Taylor. Died 1984.

Also 100 years ago, on 27th November 1925 that Ernie Wise, TV comedian and actor, was born. Best known for his comedy partnership with Eric Morecambe (Morecambe and Wise) Died 1999.

65 years ago, on 8th November 1960, that John F Kennedy was elected as the 35th President of the USA.

60 years ago, on 9th November 1965 that the death penalty was abolished in the UK

50 years ago, on 3rd November 1975 that Britain's first North Sea oil pipeline was officially opened.

40 years ago, on 15th November 1985 that the Anglo-Irish Agreement was signed by the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Irish President Garret Fitzgerald. It gave the Irish government a consultative role in the affairs of Northern Ireland.

25 years ago, on 9th November 2000 that Eric Morley, TV host, died. Known for establishing the ballroom dancing competition Come Dancing (1949 – 98). It was succeeded by a celebrity version, Strictly Come Dancing, in 2004.

Quotes for November

Some miscellaneous observations on life...

Men best show their character in trifles, where they are not on their guard. -
Arthur Schopenhauer

Happiness is not the end of life; character is. - *Henry Ward Beecher*

Catty remarks have more lives than a cat. - *Anon*

Why is 'abbreviation' such a long word? - *Anon*

God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts. - *Anon*

Dear God, I have a problem, it's the big me. - *Anon*

Growing old is inevitable, growing UP is optional. - *Anon*

There is no key to happiness. The door is always open. - *Anon*

Silence is often misinterpreted but never misquoted. - *Anon*

Do the maths ... count your blessings. - *Anon*

Faith is the ability to not panic. - *Anon*

Laugh every day, it's like inner jogging. – *Anon*

If you worry, you didn't pray. If you pray, don't worry. - *Anon*

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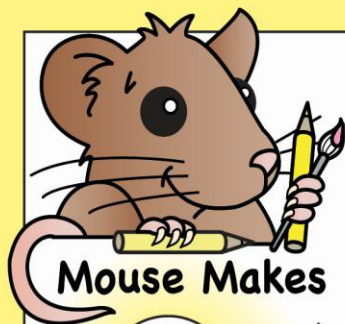
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Costs are as follows:

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Mouse Makes

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November.

ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour.

We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



Read:

LUKE 2:10-11

Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



Read:

John 3:16

How did God show He loves us?



Read:

Isaiah 40:5

What shall be revealed?



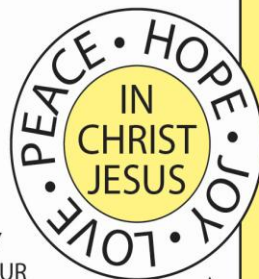
Read:

Romans 5:1-2

Through who do we have peace with God?

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

ADVENT • ARRIVAL • HOPE • JOY • LOVE • PEACE • GOD • GLORY
MESSAGE • PROMISE • PROPHECY • FORETOLD • JESUS • SAVIOUR
CHRIST • GIFT • GOOD NEWS • RETURN • CANDLE • LIGHT



**COULD ANY ARTICLES/NOTICES FOR THE
DECEMBER/JANUARY MAGAZINE PLEASE BE SENT
TO ME BY
SUNDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2025 PLEASE 😊?
(e-mail to m.todd1@hotmail.com)**

For how many minutes can you concentrate?

Most of us can watch television for only about 15 minutes, or read a book for about 14 minutes, before we lose our concentration. Most of us blame our social media notifications as the reason.

A recent survey by Perspectus Global for Lingo by Abbott, found that Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp and message alerts were named as the main culprits.

Overall, it seems we can focus for only 11 minutes on a virtual work call, or 13 minutes in a face-to-face meeting, or 12 minutes writing a work email.

We even seem to lose concentration at family gatherings, after only 14 minutes. Overall, four in five of us say that we get distracted easily, and that we lose our focus around eight times each day.

What about you? Why not take up the challenge, and 'time' your losses of concentration for a day?



Repair Café Kenilworth

Repair Café Kenilworth (ReCK) is a free meeting space that's all about repairing things together, be that clothes, toys, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles ... there's very little that can't be repaired by our team of expert volunteers.

We meet at the United Reformed Church every third Saturday in the month, between 2PM and 5PM. There is free parking outside the Church, but it can get quite busy. If your item is particularly heavy or large, we'll always try to assist you as best as possible.



Sustainable. Social. Economic. Fun.

A local Repair Café is a not-for-profit community event, created by neighbours, for their neighbours. The aim of the Repair Café Kenilworth (and those worldwide) is to reduce waste, increase sustainability, save money, and have fun in an informal social gathering.

Oh ... with lots of tea and cake on tap also. It is a Repair CAFÉ after all.

Bin it? No Way!

Some things have to be thrown away ... the old toothbrush with curly bristles, that blown light bulb that's been sitting inside the cupboard since 1983, the fish 'n' chip wrappers from last night's tea ... but what about that broken bedside lamp, or the rickety wooden stool that belonged to your grandparents?

The Repair Café movement has one simple question, and an even simpler answer; Bin it? No Way!

Along with actually repairing your broken items, we'll help you to develop the skills to start repairing them yourself, to promote the culture of repair over replace, and to give you the satisfaction of bringing your treasured memories back to life.



Further details

[Repair Cafe](#) | [Repair Cafe Kenilworth](#) | [Kenilworth \(repaircafe-kenilworth.org\)](#)

The third Saturday afternoon of the month at Abbey Hill Church 2pm-5pm.



Exam

In the examination paper, the professor wanted us to sign a form stating that we had not received any outside assistance. Unsure of whether he should sign the form, a student admitted that he had prayed for the assistance of God.

The professor carefully studied the answer page and then replied, "You can sign it with a clear conscience. God did not assist you."

Careful!

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing the old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

The lady thought for a moment. "Only the Ten Commandments."

Morning

There are two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

Dry

My minister friend put hot-air hand dryers in the rest rooms at his church and after two weeks, took them out. I asked him why and he confessed that they worked fine, but someone had scribbled on the dryer: "For a sample of this week's sermon, push the button."

Hear, hear

A very deaf elderly man was finally fitted out with a hearing aid that really worked. A month later his doctor called him in for a check-up.

"Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

Duck

I have a severe nonlinear waterfowl issue. (I don't have all my ducks in a row.)

Where there's smoke...

At our church, it was common for the minister to invite the children to the front of the church and have a small lesson before beginning the sermon. He would often bring in a household item, and then relate it to a teaching from the Bible.

One morning, the visual aid for his lesson was a smoke detector. He asked the children if anyone knew what it meant when an alarm sounded from the smoke detector. My young son immediately raised his hand. "It means Daddy's cooking dinner."

Bible knowledge

A minister was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I finally figured out what the Bible means!" The minister thought of his extensive theological library and smiled indulgently. He asked his young son what he thought the Bible meant.

"It's easy, Daddy," the boy replied. "It means: 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.

I'm proud to announce that I have completed the first item on my bucket list. I have the bucket.

Somebody just threw a handful of Omega 3 tablets at me! It's okay, I only suffered super fish oil injuries.

The only thing that wakes you up faster than coffee is spilled coffee.

ROTAS – November 2025

	Transport	Flowers provided by	Flowers arranged by
02/11	John Nicholls 07770 598598	Mavis Duckworth	Emma Watts
09/11	Hilary Scott 07749 836928	Gaynor Watkins	Barbara Gillard
16/11	Barbara Rose 07534 104444	Heather Barton	Heather Barton
23/11	Colin Ritchie 01926 512507	Donna Curran	Donna Curran
30/11	John Nicholls 07770 598598	Jane Woods-Scawen	Christmas Arrangements
	Projector & Sound	Stewards	Readers
02/11	David	Kath Shortley & Betty Connelly BINS: Recycling	Betty Connelly
09/11	Bronwen	Anne & Fred Holloway	Emma
16/11	Ivan	Rosemary Lawrence & Donna Bloy BINS: Recycling & grey refuse	Phil Inshaw
23/11	John	Barbara & Ian Rose	Pat Cowan
30/11	Bronwen	Eileen John & Phil Inshaw BINS: Recycling	Colin Ritchie
	Coffee	Car Park	Vestry
02/11	Jane Woods – Scawen & John Thomas		Anne Holloway
09/11	Gary & Carol Cave		Anne Gilmore
16/11	Di Wilson & Susan Cross		Susan Cross
23/11	Betty Connelly & Eileen John		Kath Shortley
30/11	Kath Shortley & Cheryl Ritchie		Cheryl Ritchie
	Communion Prep.	Comm. Servers	
16/11	Donna Bloy & Anne Holloway		

Names in Bold are Fire Stewards – please arrange a swap if necessary

ROTAS – December 2025

	Transport	Flowers provided by	Flowers arranged by
07/12	Hilary Scott 07749 836928	Jane Woods-Scawen	Christmas Arrangements
14/12	Barbara Rose 07534 104444	Jane Woods-Scawen	Christmas Arrangements
21/12	Colin Ritchie 01926 512507	Jane Woods-Scawen	Christmas Arrangements
28/12	John Nichols 07770 598598	Alison Crichton	Anne Gilmore
	Projector & Sound	Stewards	Readers
07/12	David	Pat Cowan & Anne Gilmore BINS: Grey Refuse	David Connelly
14/12	Alison	Jo & John Williams BINS: Recycling	Donna Bloy
21/12	Ivan	John Nichols & Mary Lea	Elinor Davies
28/12	John	Di Wilson & Janet Paget BINS: Recycling & Grey refuse	Fred Holloway
	Coffee	Car Park	Vestry
07/12	Rosemary Lawrence & Suzanne Hall		John Nichols
14/12	John Nichols & Mary Lea		Colin Ritchie
21/12	Alison Pointon & Hilary Scott		Rosemary Lawrence
28/12	Anne & Fred Holloway		Anne Gilmore
	Communion Prep.	Comm. Servers	
21/12	Colin & Cheryl Ritchie		

Names in Bold are Fire Stewards – please arrange a swap if necessary

PRAYER DIARY NOVEMBER 2025

1 st	Kath Shortley
2 nd	Mary Skidmore
3 rd	Lorna and John Spenser
4 th	Jo Stratton, Sophie and Elspeth
5 th	Ruth and Steve Sutton
6 th	Winnie Tawil
7 th	Helen and Dave Thomas
8 th	Esmé Thorpe
9 th	Joy Thorpe
10 th	Bronwen and Martyn Todd, Sarah and Lottie
11 th	Janet Turner
12 th	Jo and Pete Warren
13 th	Gaynor Watkins
14 th	Emma and Gary Watt
15 th	Jo and John Williams
16 th	Lesley Williams
17 th	Di Wilson
18 th	Jane Woods-Scawen and John Thomas
19 th	Jon Atkinson
20 th	Heather and John Barton
21 st	Louise Barton and Emileigh Warren
22 nd	Peter and Barbara Champion
23 rd	Rob Blacklock
24 th	Pauline Brooks
25 th	Judy Clarkson and Sam
26 th	Betty and David Connelly
27 th	Vera Cooper
28 th	Gloria Cordery
29 th	Carol Cove
30 th	Pat and Ian Cowan

WHO's WHO at ABBEY HILL

Church Leader. George Jones

07946 095418

g.jones@abbeyhillurc.com

Secretary: Cheryl Ritchie

01926 512507

ELDERS

Kenilworth dialling code 01926

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Anne Gilmore	855586
Rosemary Lawrence	07814 320480
John Nichols	07770 598598
Colin Ritchie	512507
Kath Shortley	07722 263393

OFFICERS

Fellowship Secretary	Pat Cowan	313904
Pulpit Supply	Anne Holloway	335951
Treasurer	David Connelly	855218
Appeals Treasurer	John McKenzie	779810
Secretary Managers	Ivan Pointon	855399
Organist	Steve Sutton	07799 620967
Gift Aid Secretary	John McKenzie	779810
Lettings Officer	Sue England	07434 931056
Free Will Envelopes	Susan Cross	07515 890598
Magazine Editor	Martyn Todd	07763 104118
Brownie Leader	Sarah Pointer	02477 042291
Healing Group	Jo Williams	02477 112156
Safeguarding Coordinator	Alison Crichton	07970 557726
Transport		
Kenilworth Foodbank	Donna Curran	07485 687784

Church Website: www.kenilworthabbeyhill.urc.org.uk

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