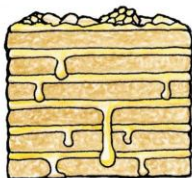
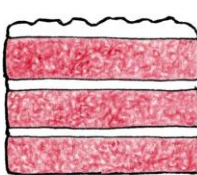
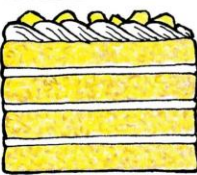
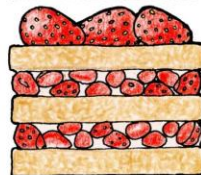
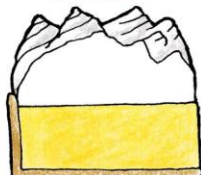
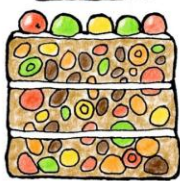
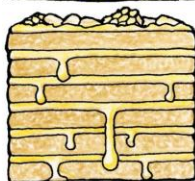
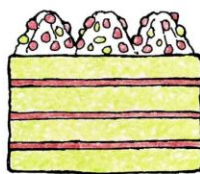
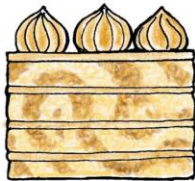
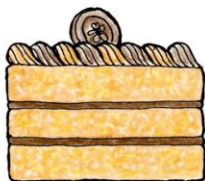
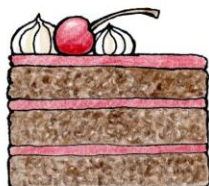


ABBHEY HILL U.R.C. MAGAZINE



September
2026



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

Beginnings

“In the beginning”, starts St. John’s gospel and the word beginning has interest because it is thought provoking and the thoughts have no easy answers. Words like, where, why, what, when? More than these words may come to your mind.

What of new beginnings in our daily lives? For many people this is the month of new beginning, especially for children as they start school or move from primary to secondary education or go to apprenticeships, training or university. Do you remember your excitement at these times?

Within families there may be lots of new beginnings such as marriage, new babies, moving house and for some elderly people, leaving what is familiar and maybe choosing a care home. Some people may be starting afresh in a new country.

In many parts of our world there are new beginnings for all species, some threatened to extinction and changes for plant life as a result of climate extremes, earthquakes, devastating fires and wars. But good news, nature never stops trying to begin again as long as we give it space and time to do so.

Should we look at our lifestyle and think of how we can support new beginnings in the lives of people, as well as in the natural world? Do you believe that following the way of Christ will give us the will to find ways of supporting new beginnings with one another and with our natural world? Shall we try?

Eileen John

CHURCH SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

6th Sunday 11.00 Family Service led by George Jones

13th Sunday 11.00 Family Service led by Donna Curran.

20th Sunday 11.00 Family Service with communion led by David Connolly

Communion Offertory will be donated to the UNICEF appeal for the children affected by the double earthquake in Venezuela.

27th Sunday 11.00 Harvest Service led by Donna Curran and Jo Stratton



CHURCH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2026

4th Sunday 11.00 Family Service led by George Jones

11th Sunday 11.00 Family Service led by Tom Baird.

18th Sunday 11.00 Family Service with communion led by George Jones

25th Sunday 11.00 Wellness and Wholeness Service led by Kath Shortley

Home Bible Study Group

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

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	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

Harvest Baked Potato Lunch	Lower Hall Abbey Hill	Sunday September 27 th	After morning service	Susan Cross
Church Meeting	Abbey Hill Church	Sunday October 4 th	After morning service	Cheryl Ritchie
Celebration Of George's Ministry	Lower Hall Abbey Hill	Saturday October 24 th	Evening TBC	Cheryl Ritchie
Pint together	The Green Man Pub	Friday November 20 th	From 7pm	Anne & Fred Holloway
Candlelight Carol Service	Abbey Hill Church	Saturday December 12 th	4:30pm	The Elders

Please let Susan Cross know of any events that can be publicised here.

FREE WILL ENVELOPES

Many people now give a financial donation to the church directly through their bank. This is the most cost-effective way of donating. If you donate through your bank and no longer need a set of weekly envelopes please let me know so I can avoid over-ordering.

If you would like to use weekly envelopes and don't already have any, please contact me and I can add them to the order for 2027.

Many thanks,

Susan Cross 07515 890598

Save The Date

Saturday October 24th

An evening eating Puddings and Celebrating
George's Ministry to Abbey Hill

In the School Room

All invited, more details to follow

Arlidge's Charity

Educational grants are available to members of URC churches within Warwickshire. The trustees will be considering applications for the academic year 2026-2027 in October.

The maximum age limit is 25 years old and the closing date for applications is 13th September 2026.

If a child or grandchild of a church member wishes to be considered for a grant, please contact Donna Bloy at donna.bloy@talk21.com

Many thanks, Donna.

Baked Potato Lunch

Served with a choice of fillings
in the School Room
after the Harvest Festival
Sunday September 27th

Please
inform us of
any dietary
requirements



Vegetarian
choice
available

Book your place by using the sign up sheet in
the porch.

There is no charge, but there will be a
collection for Commitment for Life.

Commitment for Life is the URC's global
justice programme in partnership with
Christian Aid and Global Justice Now.

DISCUSSION GROUP.

The Group will meet at 7.15 pm on Tuesday 8th September in the
Vestry.

The topic is yet to be decided, any ideas welcome!

All invited.

Colin Ritchie

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY FOR SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

A Happy Birthday to all who are celebrating a birthday in September.
They include -

1st September Donna Hall
12th September Kath Shortley
19th September Scott McKenzie
22nd September Rev. Brenda Hall
27th September John Barton

Best wishes to Kath who celebrates a special birthday ending in a "0".

SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Best wishes to

3rd September Helen & Dave Thomas
5th September Ivan & Alison Pointon
14th September Alison & Robert Crichton
16th September David & Gill Littleford

IN OUR THOUGHTS and PRAYERS

We continue to pray for Edna Dixon, Mary Skidmore, Janet Turner, Donald Horsfield and many others.

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

Savour the Moment.....

*.....when the rain stops,
the wind drops,
and the countryside is suddenly still.*

*....when the last echo dies away
and the music becomes a memory.*

From Quiet Moments by Tom Wright

PLEASE let PAT COWAN know on 01926 313904 if you have any news of our church family.

Treasurer's Report

Letter from the Treasurers of the URC.

Note that we pay all our suggested contributions to M&M Fund (£2,300 a month)

To: All members and adherents of United Reformed Churches

Dear Friends,

This letter is designed to give you an indication of the denomination's central finances but is necessarily a brief over-view. Your church (or group) treasurer has a letter giving more detail which we are sure they will be delighted to share with you.

In recent years, on the Ministry and Mission (M&M) Fund, we have seen a gradual decline in church contributions and the shortfall on synod's pledges have been made up by the synods themselves.

We are hugely grateful to the synods for their generosity but recognise this is not sustainable over the long term. It is also of concern that the weakness of church contributions weakens the covenant that binds us together as a denomination, namely that those with resources contribute to supporting those who have less.

The central URC budget for expenditure (for 2026) includes a number of areas of expected costs reduction, significantly in staffing. Some very hard choices have been made and implemented. On the other hand, the URC needs to buy in expertise that we need for our world of increasing regulation and oversight, in view of the scarce resources available from volunteers. We hope that at local church level you will take a moment to reflect on the expertise (paid and unpaid) that steers the URC through all we have to do to be compliant with complex regulation. (Please pray for us!).

The accounts of the M&M Fund (the greater, but not only part of the URC Trust finances) show our total income £670,000 ahead of budget, but our costs were around £610,000 higher than expected. The deficit for the year on the M&M fund was around £650,000. We had hoped for much better.

So, thank you to all who continued to contribute to your local church, thank you to all those churches who met their commitment for 2025 in full,

If you have any questions or comments arising from this letter, please speak to your church treasurer who has been provided with more detailed information. If they are not able to help directly then they can get in touch with the finance team at Church House.

Yours in Christ,

Alan Yates (Treasurer)

Vaughan Griffiths (Deputy Treasurer)

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, dad, carer who leaves their 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 parents/carers 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.

The Dormition of Mary

When I first started at Upton House, I was not particularly taken with this painting. But the more you look at it, the more you appreciate this. The painting draws you in and you start to see more details. The painting was recently cleaned and the details are now much more obvious.

This is an unusual painting by Peter Breugel the Elder. He only did three paintings using grisaille as a technique. It was painted in 1564 and may have been inspired by engravings by Albrecht Durer and Martin Schongauer.

The subject of the painting is the death of Mary, the mother of Jesus. This



story comes from the Golden Legend, a book about the saints and the virgin Mary compiled in the 13th century. The Eastern Orthodox Church celebrated this event. It was a popular story in

the Netherlands in the 15th and 16th centuries. Mary was said to die 11 years after the death of Jesus.

Mary is sitting up in bed, receiving a lighted taper from St. Peter. The light is a symbol of the Christian faith and is meant to light the last moments of life. Mary Magdalene is straightening the pillows. The figure asleep by the fire is St John, the disciple that Jesus loved. The other disciples are gathered around the bed.

Mary Lea

WRAP

WRAP stands for Waste and Resources Action Programme.

The organisation works with businesses supermarkets and councils to Improve packaging for recycling and encouraging recycling.

This September WRAP wish to encourage people to recycle items that often go into general rubbish (grey bins in this area) - aluminium foil, shampoo bottles, toothpaste tubes, trigger sprays, aerosols, yogurt pots, after shave and perfume bottles and toilet roll tubes. 79% of households do not recycle these!!!

Other items that can be recycled are frozen food bags (rinse out and allow to dry) multipack wrapping, fruit and vegetable nets, breakfast cereal bags, dry cleaning bags

It is also important that items that will contaminate the recycling process are

Shredded paper, take away hot drinks cups, greasy pizza boxes, paper towels and napkins, sticky notes, black plastic items (we can do black plastic bags) plastic utensils and straws, styrofoam, drinking glasses, Pyrex ware, window glass, mirrors and ceramics.

Wrapping paper with sellotape..... with Christmas in mind....metallic and paper with glitter are **non recyclable**. This applies to cards as well.

Please review what you do/don't in the blue bin to increase the amount that can be productively and profitably recycled.

Remember that at Sherborne Coventry we have the most advanced recycling plant in the country and that our council gets paid for what is sent to be recycled as along with 7 other councils they contributed to the costs of setting the facility up. The payment relates to the amount that a council sends for recycling.

Anne Gilmore

All in the month of SEPTEMBER

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.

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.

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.

60 years ago, on 8th September 1966 that the Severn Bridge was officially opened. Linking Wales and England over the rivers Severn and Wye, it carries about 32,000 vehicles a day.

50 years ago, on 5th September 1976 that the first episode of the Muppet Show was broadcast on ITV in the UK. It attracted 15 million viewers and ran for five series until March 1981.

40 years ago, on 7th September 1986 that Desmond Tutu became the first black Archbishop of Cape Town. Retired in 1996.

25 years ago, on 11th September 2001 that the terrorist attacks on America took place. Al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four planes and crashed them into the World Trade Centre's Twin Towers in New York, into the Pentagon, and into a field in Pennsylvania (following a passenger revolt – the intended target was Washington DC). 2,973 people were killed.

Remembering Buddy Holly

Ninety years ago, on 7th September 1936, Buddy Holly, the American rock and roll singer, was born Charles Hardin Holley in Lubbock, Texas. His career was cut short when he was killed in a plane crash in 1959 – an event remembered as “the day the music died”.

Holly was raised by a devout Southern Baptist family and was baptised at the Tabernacle Baptist Church in his hometown. His widely recognised talent as a musician and singer led him into the emerging country rock scene, where performers were often exploited by those working behind the scenes.

His influence has been acknowledged by many top singers and guitarists, including Bob Dylan, the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and Eric Clapton.

The plane crash happened during a poorly organised winter tour of the Mid West where the buses supplied were hopelessly inadequate in terms of reliability and heating. Temperatures well below freezing led Holly to hire a small private plane to take three of them to the next venue. The inexperienced pilot crashed the plane shortly after take-off near Clear Lake, Iowa, killing everyone on board: himself, Holly, J P “The Big Bopper” Richardson, who was given his seat because he was suffering from flu, and Ritchie Valens, who won it on a coin toss.

Holly’s pregnant wife Elena heard of his death on the radio, and the shock of it led to a miscarriage. This resulted in the convention of not broadcasting the sudden death of anyone without close relatives being informed.

The disaster was immortalised by singer/songwriter Don McLean, who said he had idolised Holly and felt his death marked a watershed between the innocence of the 1950s and the changes brought about by the Vietnam generation. His song, *The Day the Music Died*, was a long and brilliant solo performance.

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.

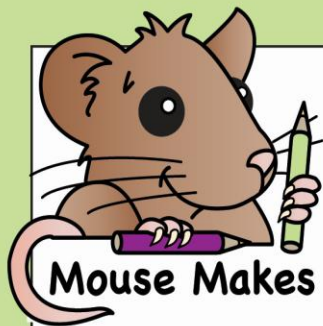
Wisden was a builder's son, born in Brighton. He moved to London after his father died, and lived with the outstanding Sussex wicketkeeper, Tom Box. Wisden was only 5ft 4in and weighed seven stone when he made his first-class debut for Sussex against MCC in 1845, taking nine wickets. He became known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



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

Duke of Edinburgh's Award celebrates 70 years: 1956 - 2026

It was back in February of 1956 that Buckingham Palace released a press announcement outlining plans for a trial period of 'The Duke of Edinburgh's Award'. It was the post-war era, and His Royal Highness wanted to help boys bridge the gap between leaving formal education at 15 and starting National Service at 18. He also wanted them to build self-confidence and a sense of purpose to support them into their future. A youth programme, he believed, would improve their skills and equip them to make valuable contributions to their communities and society.

In 1956, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award pilot was launched to national voluntary youth organisations. It soon expanded to include Local Education Authorities, the Armed Forces and some schools across the UK.

After the first year, 7,000 boys had started a programme and 1,000 Awards had been achieved. Girls were allowed to join the programme in 1958. Since that first year, millions have joined the DofE Award programme. The DofE continued to evolve, and programmes took on their current format of Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition, and Residential at Gold level in 1980.

In 2020, DofE participants stepped up in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The volunteering efforts of 330,000 young people equated to an investment of almost £8.5 million in a time of need. The DofE says: "It hasn't been the easiest few years for young people. From the ongoing aftermath of the pandemic to the anxieties of the cost-of-living crisis, the future doesn't always feel certain. But, in seven decades of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE), we've learnt one thing: never doubt what young people can do. Time and time again, we've seen that when young people are given the chance to prove to themselves what they're capable of, there's no limit to what they can achieve. We're here to celebrate and champion every young person. To provide a safe environment of support and challenge that grows as they do. Whatever their ability, interest or background, DofE offers young people the chance to strive for achievement, overcome obstacles, and set their minds to a personal challenge. Because when you prove to yourself that you're ready for anything, nothing can hold you back. Our Founder HRH Prince Philip once said: 'There is more in you than you might think.' And, here at the DofE, we help you realise that."

Prince Philip passed away in April 2021, but his legacy thrives thanks to the tireless support of the new Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Edward.

More info at: <https://www.dofe.org>

How can a Christian be a scientist?

I used to ask this question as a student. I wondered what it was like to have a career in science, and how being a Christian might make a difference. Eventually I met a good number of successful scientists who were sincere Christians, and I learned that science and faith are a great combination. Dr Francis Collins, former Director of the project to decode the whole of human DNA, wrote that it is “possible for the scientist-believer to be intellectually fulfilled and spiritually alive, both worshipping God and using the tools of science to uncover some of the awesome mysteries of His creation.” So, what do people like this make of the opportunities and challenges of a life in science?

Although our beliefs may affect what we notice about the world and how we interpret our data, they don't affect the outcome of the experiments themselves. If a Muslim and a Christian drop the same ball from the same height under identical conditions, it will fall at the same speed. This means that a scientist can be respected by her colleagues for doing good work, regardless of what she believes and what her colleagues think of her worldview.

Science is an exercise in observing and measuring things, and coming up with general principles about the way things are. The world has been declared by God to be 'very good' (see chapter one and two of Genesis), and exploring it is a way to express our gratitude to Him. Scientific discoveries can also bring a sense of awe and wonder that feeds into our worship.

Some people don't want to get involved in certain lines of research because of ethical concerns. On the other hand, there are many issues that make Christians want to get stuck into new research that will help care for people and the rest of creation, such as medical research, ecology or developing appropriate technologies.

Organisations such as Christians in Science and the Faraday Institute gather together scientists who are also people of faith, and others who are interested in the subject. They come from a wide range of backgrounds, and express their beliefs in a variety of different ways. What they have in common is the conviction that you don't have to choose between science and God. As the young people in our churches prepare to return to their studies, online if not in person, let's encourage them that science (along with many other fields) is a great way to serve God.

Dr Ruth M Bancewicz

Why wearing slippers isn't always so cosy

Many of us love the comfort of wearing our slippers around the house. They are warm and cosy and keep the carpets clean.

But – if you wear them for many hours a day, beware: slippers can be dangerous when they show signs of wear and tear. Soles with holes, flaps, worn down backs, or frayed uppers are the reasons for thousands of painful falls each year.

How sturdy are your slippers? If you can fold them in half, they are not supporting your feet. So walking on the hard floors in your home will mean that the impact from each step goes straight to your knees, hips and lower back.

And what about arch support? Anyone with arthritis, sciatica, knee and back pain or plantar fasciitis will really struggle without it.

Instead, slippers need to have a rubbery cushioned thick sole, which provides some shock absorption. And they need to have a heel cup indentation, so it is easy to keep the slipper on. Otherwise, you will be clawing your foot to hang on to them, which will put strain on the tendons below. Some people find that croc-style clogs are a good option.

At the end of the day, it pays to be good to your feet. They are a complicated and wonderful mix of 26 bones, 33 small joints, 29 muscles, and dozens of tendons, ligaments, nerves and blood vessels. In the words of the Psalmist, your foot is 'fearfully and wonderfully made' and deserves your protection and support.

‘He gave us eyes to see them’ – the church bells

‘Summoned by Bells’ is the title of John Betjeman’s poetic autobiography, where he describes how bells summoned him to school and to church. Bells announcing the joy of weddings and Sunday services; and also marking out times of sadness and the death of loved ones.

One of the strangest bell-towers is at St Augustine’s Church, Brookland in Kent, north-east of Rye. It was originally built in the medieval period, and now stands as a triple coned, wooden, octagonal tower detached from the church, and clad with shingles in 1936.



The story is that the tower looked down at a beautiful bride about to marry an unpleasant groom: it was such a surprise that the tower jumped off the church in shock. The truth is that the church was built on marshy ground, and a stronger foundation was needed for the bells. And so the tower was built north of the church.

Like all belfries and steeples, it is an impressive witness to the place of bells in human life and work: as time-keepers, announcing both festive occasions and emergencies, and calling people away from more worldly pursuits to worship. That is why bells have always been blessed at their installation for their true function is to ring out the harmony of heaven.

The tenor bell at Warburton Church in Cheshire is inscribed with the words, ‘I bid you to the house of prayer. St Werburgh’s hallowed name I bear. Good folk draw near and humbly pray, as prayed that saint in olden day.’ As a little boy, John Betjeman would listen to the bells with his teddy bear, Archibald. ‘I heard the church bells hollowing out the sky, deep beyond deep, like never-ending stars.’ For him, for the people of Brookland, and for all of us, the bells were like stars lighting up the sky with faith and joy and praise.

**COULD ANY ARTICLES/NOTICES FOR THE
OCTOBER 2026 MAGAZINE PLEASE BE SENT
TO ME BY
SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2026 PLEASE 😊?
(e-mail to m.todd1@hotmail.com)**

How often should you change your sheets?

Ever wonder that?

When the question was put to various sleep coaches and sheet manufacturers, they came up with a variety of things to consider.

Once a week is thought to be good practise by many, but no more than twice a week, or you risk putting unnecessary wear and tear on your bedlinen.

Do you bath at night or in the morning? It matters, because that determines how much dust and sweat you will be taking to bed with you each night.

Do your pets sleep with you? In that case you may wish to change your bedding more than once a week. They may be leaving the odd flea, tick and certainly some fur in your bed.

Do you have allergies? If they include dust mites, it may be worth changing your bed every three to four days. Allergy UK advises a 60 degree wash to kill dust mites.

And finally, don't rush to make your bed each morning. Instead, pull back the sheets, open the window, and give it some time to air.



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.



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.

Wedding guest

A little boy at Sunday School learned about the time Jesus went to a wedding and changed the water into wine. "And what did you learn from that story?" asked his father afterward.

The boy thought for a moment and answered, "If you're having a wedding, make sure Jesus is there."

Retreat

A man with a nagging secret couldn't keep it any longer. In the confessional he admitted that for years he had been stealing building supplies from the lumberyard where he worked. "What did you take?" his priest asked.

"Enough to build my own house and enough for my son's house. And houses for our two daughters and our cottage at the lake."

"This is very serious," the priest said. "I shall have to think of a far-reaching penance. Have you ever done a retreat?"

"No, Father, I haven't," the man replied. "But if you can get the plans, I can get the lumber."

Questions

The phone rang. It was a salesman calling from a mortgage refinance company: "Do you have a second mortgage on your home?" I said no.

"Would you like to consolidate all your debts?" I explained that I had no debts.

"How about freeing up cash for home improvements?" I said I was happy with what I had already.

There was a brief silence, and then he asked, "Are you looking for a husband?"

Typeface

I'm working on a new typeface to be used for church bulletins. I call it Baptismal Font.

Get rid

A man bought a new fridge for his house. To get rid of his old fridge, he decided to put it outside in his front garden, along with a sign saying: 'Free to good home.' For three days the fridge sat there without even one person looking twice at it.

So eventually the man changed the sign to read: 'Fridge for sale: £30'. The next day someone stole it.

Shops

Grandfather talked often about the 'good old days', when the cost of living was much lower. "When I was a lad," he exclaimed, "my mother could send me to the local shop and I'd get some mince, two pints of milk, some bread, some tinned rice and a magazine – all for less than a pound!"

His young grandson protested: "You couldn't do that now. They got those video cameras everywhere you look."

Signs found in modern kitchens....

- 1. If a messy kitchen is a happy kitchen, this kitchen is delirious.*
- 2. No husband has ever been shot while doing the dishes.*
- 3. A husband is someone who takes out the rubbish and gives the impression he just cleaned the whole house.*
- 4. If we are what we eat, then I'm easy, fast, and cheap.*
- 5. A balanced diet is a biscuit in each hand.*
- 6. Thou shalt not weigh more than thy refrigerator.*
- 7. A clean house is a sign of a misspent life.*
- 9. Help keep the kitchen clean — eat out.*
- 10. Many people have eaten in this kitchen and gone on to lead normal lives.*

Wedding

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"

"Because white is the colour of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life."

The child thought about this for a moment, then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

No date

An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she explained: "They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, so I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead."

ROTAS – September 2026

	Transport	Flowers provided by	Flowers arranged by
06/09	Hilary Scott 07749 836928	Jo Stratton	Eileen John
3/09	John Nichols 07770 598598	Mary Skidmore	Di Wilson
20/09	Barbara Rose 07534104444	Lorna Spenser	Anne Holloway
27/09	Colin Ritchie 01926 512507	Barbara Gillard	Barbara Gillard
	Projector & Sound	Stewards	Readers
06/09	John	Kath Shortley & Betty Connelly BINS: Recycling & grey refuse	Pat Cowan
13/09	Bronwen	Barbara Rose & Hilary Scott	Phil Inshaw
20/09	Bronwen	Jo & John Williams BINS: Recycling	Colin Ritchie
27/09	Jansy and Imogen	Anne & Fred Holloway BINS: Grey refuse	Jane Woods - Scawen
	Coffee	Fire Steward	Vestry
06/09	Anne & Fred Holloway	Kath Shortley	Anne Holloway
13/09	Jansey & Keiran Green	Hilary Scott	Rosemary Lawrence
20/09	Rosemary Lawrence & Suzanne Hall	Rosemary Lawrence	Colin Ritchie
27/09	Kath Shortley & Cheryl Ritchie	Anne Holloway	Anne Gilmore
	Communion Prep.	Comm. Servers	
20/09	John Nichols & Kath Shortley		

Names in Bold are Fire Stewards – please note new Fire Stewards column above.

If any of these dates aren't convenient for you, please arrange a swap.

ROTAS – October 2026

	Transport	Flowers provided by	Flowers arranged by
04/10	John Nichols 07770 598598	Susan Derwent	Emma Watt
11/10	Hilary Scott 07749 836928	Anne Gilmore	Anne Gilmore
18/10	Barbara Rose 07534 104444	Carol Cave	Carol Cave
25/10	Colin Ritchie 01926 512507	Rosemary Lawrence	Rosemary Lawrence
	Projector & Sound	Stewards	Readers
04/10	Ivan	Rosemary Lawrence & Donna Bloy BINS: Recycling	David Connelly
11/10	Jansy and Imogen	Pat Cowan & Anne Gilmore	Donna Bloy
18/10	John	Hilary Scott & Gary BINS: Recycling & Grey Refuse	Elinor Davies
25/10	David	Phil Inshaw & Eileen John	Fred Holloway
	Coffee	Fire Steward	Vestry
04/10	Alison Pointon & Hilary Scott	Hilary Scott	Susan Cross
11/10	Barbara Rose & Ruth Loutit	Anne Gilmore	Kath Shortley
18/10	Jane Woods – Scawen & John Thomas	Anne Holloway	Cheryl Ritchie
25/10	John Nichols & Gary	John Nichols	Colin Ritchie
	Communion Prep.	Comm. Servers	
18/10	Anne Holloway & Donna Bloy		

Names in Bold are Fire Stewards – please note new Fire Steward Column above.

If these dates are inconvenient for you, please arrange a swap.

PRAYER DIARY SEPTEMBER 2026

1st	Edna Dixon
2nd	Paul Duffy
3rd	Sue England
4th	Glo Ford
5th	Barbara and Richard Gillard
6th	Anne and Tony Gilmore
7th	Julia Graham
8th	Jansy, Keiron and Imogen Green
9th	Donna and Darren Hall
10th	Laraine Hall
11th	Susanne Hall
12th	Brenda Hill
13th	Glenys Hobbins
14th	Anne and Fred Holloway
15th	Jane and Phil Inshaw
16th	Jennifer Jackson and Robert Banks
17th	Eileen John
18th	Emilie Jones
19th	George Jones and Judith Lewis
20th	Robert Kerr
21st	Rosemary and Gerald Lawrence
22nd	Mary Lea
23rd	Gill and David Littleford
24th	Ruth and Robin Loutit
25th	Alice McAdam
26th	Ayse and John McKenzie
27th	Ros Morris
28th	Pam Muckersie
29th	Rachel Newey
30th	Viv and John Nichols

WHO's WHO at ABBEY HILL

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g.jones@abbeyhillurc.com

Secretary: Cheryl Ritchie

01926 512507

ELDERS

Kenilworth dialling code 01926

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Anne Gilmore	855586
Anne Holloway	335951
Rosemary Lawrence	07814 320480
Mary Lea	07913 540821
Cheryl Ritchie	512507
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
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Brownie Leader	Sarah Pointer	02477 042291
Healing Group		
Safeguarding Coordinator	Alison Crichton	07970 557726
Transport		
Kenilworth Foodbank	Donna Curran	07485 687784

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



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