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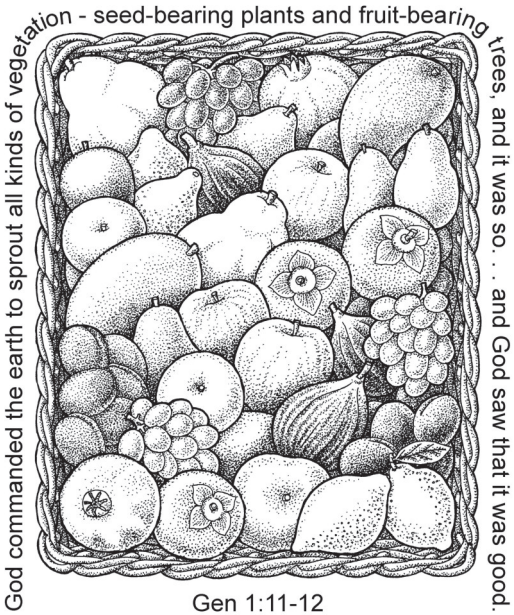


'Parish News'

The Parish magazine for Broughton Astley and Croft with Stoney Stanton



October
2026



Gen 1:11-12

40p

Supplied and printed by

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The Genuine Independent Funeral Directors & Memorial Masons

Parish Contacts

Rector	Position vacant	
Assisting Clergy	Revd Vic Goodman	01455 285410
Readers	Lester Halling Peter Yates	01455 282189 07760 152577
Locally Authorised Ministers	Paula Atkinson Heather Beadle Malcolm Burland Sheila Yates	07581 574340 01455 284689 07946 575105 07491 811019
Pastoral Assistant	John Bass	07458 315152
PCC Secretary	Paula Atkinson	07581 574340
PCC Treasurer	Barbara Bedford	01455 202812

Parish Safeguarding Officer	Peter Yates	07760 152577

To arrange Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals contact		
Parish Administrator	Linda Humphreys	07534 820197 bacsschurches@gmail.com

Parish News Editor	Wendy Howe	07779 194730 wjhowe.t21@btinternet.com

To subscribe to the Parish News please contact:		
Broughton Astley	Tom Cockerill	01455 698949
Croft	Hubert Lane	07787 910466
Stoney Stanton	Wendy Howe	07779 194730

For further information, see inside back cover or visit our website:
http://www.stmaryandstmichaelschurches.co.uk

Or follow us on Facebook: @bacsschurches

Around the Churches

St Mary's, Broughton Astley		
Churchwardens	John Bass Colin Atkinson	07458 315152 07792 801900
DCC Secretary	Moira Cooper	07951 134920
DCC Treasurer	Steve Windram	01455 272922
Tower Contact		
Tower Captain	Andy Kedie	01455 284777
Teddy Bear Bunch (Weds 10:30 Term time)	Heather Beadle	01455 284689

St Michael and All Angels, Croft		
Churchwardens	Claire Jordan Claire Wootton	01455 282495 07423 041399
DCC Secretary	Claire Wootton	07423 041399
DCC Treasurer	Lester Halling	01455 282189
Tower Captain	Lester Halling	01455 282189

St Michael's, Stoney Stanton		
Churchwarden	Wendy Howe	07779 194730
DCC Secretary	Helen Gray	07929 643829
DCC Treasurer	Margie Brimacombe	01455 282429
Ringing Master	Margie Brimacombe	01455 282429
Tower Contact	Fiona	sstantontower @hotmail.com

Facilities
Each of our three churches has a disabled access toilet and baby changing facility.
Each Church also has a hearing loop system.

2am Sunday 25 October, clocks go back one hour.



Services……October

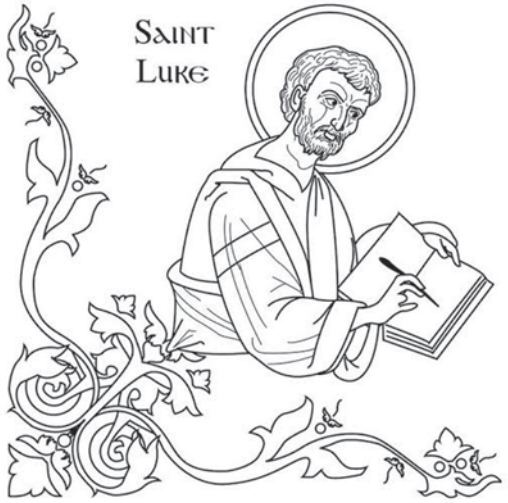
	St Mary's Broughton Astley	*St Michael's Stoney Stanton*	*St Michael & All Angel's Croft*
Sunday 4 October Trinity 18	**10:00 am United Service at St Mary's Church, Broughton Astley Harvest Festival**		
Sunday 11 October Trinity 19	**9:45 am** Holy Communion With Baptism	**9:30 am** Messy Church	**11:15 am** Praise Service
Sunday 18 October Trinity 20	**9:45 am** Messy Church	**9:30 am** Holy Communion With Baptism	**11:15 am** Holy Communion With Baptism
Sunday 25 October Last Sunday after Trinity	**9:45 am** Holy Communion	**9:30 am** Café Church	**11`:15 am** Holy Communion
Sunday 1 November All Saints/Souls	**10:00 am United Service at St Michael and All Angels Church, Croft**		

Weekday Services:
Broughton Astley: Wednesday 9:30 am a service of Morning Prayer with Holy Communion on the first Wednesday
Stoney Stanton: Thursday 9:30 am service of Morning Prayer with Holy Communion on the third Thursday

Details of services correct at time of going to print. However, please check weekly news sheet and Church noticeboards or visit the BACSS Facebook page regularly to check for any changes and updates.

(You don't need a Facebook login to see these pages).
https://m.facebook.com/bacsschurches/posts/

Good News for Everyone



October is a beautiful month. The autumn colours are at their best, and as the nights draw in we settle into the cosiness of the darker evenings. Often October brings a few final days of warm weather, which used to be called St Luke's Summer, because the church remembers St Luke on 18 October.

Tradition has it that Luke was a doctor, and a companion of St Paul. He is the author of two important books in the New Testament - his Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Many of the most familiar stories in the Bible are only found in Luke's Gospel, for example The Good Samaritan and The Prodigal Son. Only Luke tells us about the shepherds and the angel choir at Christ's birth. Only Luke recounts how the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to tell her that God had chosen her to be the mother of His son; only Luke tells us about Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. Further scenes from Christ's early life are also only recorded by Luke. Mary and Joseph present the baby Jesus at the Temple where they are met by Simeon and Anna, who recognise Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus goes with his parents to Jerusalem at Passover when he is twelve years old, becomes separated from them and is found after three days deep in discussion with the learned teachers in the Temple.

Scholars have identified particular themes in Luke's Gospel. It is the Gospel of Praise, containing three hymns which have been used in Christian worship since the beginning: Mary's song of praise to God (the Magnificat, Luke 1, 46-55), Zechariah's prophecy (the Benedictus, Luke 1, 68-79) and the prayer of Simeon (the Nunc Dimittis, Luke 2, 29-32).

It is the Gospel of Prayer. At all the great moments of his life, Luke shows us Jesus at prayer. Only he tells us the prayer parables of the Friend at Midnight (Luke 11, 5-13) and the Unjust Judge (Luke 18, 1-8).

Above all, it is the Gospel of the Outsider. In Luke's Gospel we see Jesus' concern for the excluded, the disregarded and the outcast: the poor, the sick, the Gentiles, the sinners and, especially, women. In his Gospel Luke shows how Jesus brought the Good News of God's forgiveness and salvation to all people. In the Acts of the Apostles, Luke tells how that message began to be spread across all the world.

The need to be 'inclusive' seems like a very modern concept, but in reading Luke's writings we see that from the very beginning the church turned society's expectations upside down and welcomed everyone regardless of status. All four gospel writers quote from Isaiah when they give the message of John the Baptist, "Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God"; but only Luke continues the quotation to its triumphant conclusion, "And all people shall see the salvation of God". Luke of all the gospel writers sees no limits to the love of God.

Paula



Stoney Stanton Village Hall

Newly refurbished throughout, large rooms for events of all types.

- holds up to 150 people
- main room 12m x 6.6m room + extra 5m with bifolds open
- smaller lounge room
- fully refurbished kitchen space
- modern projector system, free wifi
- perfect party/reception venue
- folding tables and chairs included
- great for kids parties as we allow indoor bouncy castles and slides
- from £15 per hour from 1/9/25
- block bookings taken

Please contact:
clerk@stoneystantonpc.gov.uk

ONLINE BOOKING SYSTEM
https://venuehire.scribeaccounts.com/Stoney-Stanton-Village-Hall








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St Michael and All Angels



On Sunday 27 September we celebrated St Michael and All Angels with a united service at St Michael's Church, Stoney Stanton, where Vic talked about Angels, past and present.

In the evening we met at St Michael and All Angels Church, Croft for a Choral Evensong. The choir sang two of the hymns mentioned in Paula's message, The Magnificat and the Nunc Dimittis, as well as Psalm 150 and a modern anthem "King of Kings, Majesty" by Jarrod Cooper. There were hymns for the congregation to join in, and bible readings. A peaceful way to end our day of celebrations for St Michael and all the Angels.

Regular Midweek Services and Events

9:30 am - Every Wednesday – A service of Morning Prayer with Holy Communion on the first Wednesday at Broughton Astley

9:30 am – Every Thursday – A service of Morning Prayer with Holy Communion on the third Thursday at Stoney Stanton.

Third Monday each month, Bible Study House Group, in Broughton Astley, 2.30 – 4.00 ish pm. Please contact Paula Atkinson, 07581 574340.

Second Tuesday each month, Prayer Group meets at St Michael's Church, Stoney Stanton 7.30 pm for a time of quiet prayer. Please contact Carol Ford 07779 841555.

Every Wednesday during Term Time,
10:30 am – 12 noon Teddy Bear Bunch for pre-school children at St Mary's Church, Broughton Astley.

Home Communion
If anyone within the Parish wishes to receive Holy Communion at their home, please contact John Bass 07458 315152
who will be able to help you, and arrange to visit you.



Baptism

Broughton Astley	Lily Victoria Stone

Funeral

Broughton Astley	George Brown

Wedding

Croft	Jacob Kench and Lydia Bedford





HOLIDAY



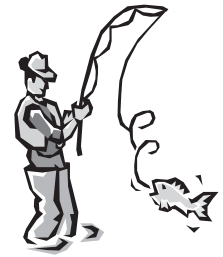
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www.Kirkwood-Lockerbie.co.uk



God is here

When our minister and his wife visited our neighbour, her four-year-old daughter answered the door. "Mum!" she yelled toward the living room. "God's here, and He brought His girlfriend."

1st Stoney Stanton Scout Group

Squirrels

Squirrels
(Boys & Girls 4 to 6 years)
Meet Tuesdays 5.00pm to 6.00pm

Beaver Scouts
(Age 6 to 8 years)
Meet Wednesdays 6.30pm to 7.30pm

BEAVERS

cubs

Cub Scouts
(Age 8 to 10½ years)
Meet Mondays 6.30pm to 8.00pm

Scouts
(Age 10½ to 14 years)
Meet Tuesdays 6.30pm to 8.30pm

SCOUTS

Interested in playing a part in delivering lifetime skills for young people ?
We have a whole host of options for adults, from actual team leadership to flexible or occasional volunteering.
For more information on this or youth membership please contact:-
Carl West (Group Lead Volunteer) on 07711 077606
gslstoneystanton@hotmail.com

For general enquiries contact
Stuart Wilson (Group Trustee Board Secretary) on 07929 479970
Group Headquarters The Old Chapel, Broughton Road, Stoney Stanton LE9 4JA

Prayer Chain

Prayer Chain

Prayer Chain

Have you ever felt you would like someone to pray for you? Or maybe there is someone you know who needs prayers.

Help is at hand. The Prayer Chain is a group of people who regularly pray for people who are on the prayer chain list.

All requests are treated in confidence. It is up to you how much you want to tell the prayer chain about the request. It can simply be the first name of the person.

I would ask you to check that the person you are requesting is OK about being on the prayer chain.

Each request is prayed for, from the date of the request, for 1 month. If you want prayers to continue after that month you need to make another request.

Please contact Jackie March with your request on bacsprayerchain@gmail.com .

You don't have to be a member of the Church to use the Prayer chain.

The Centenary of the Diocese of Leicester

As the Diocese of Leicester marks a significant milestone in its history, the Diocesan Centenary Celebration Worship Gathering had a very special guest, the Archbishop of Canterbury.



The gathering, took place on Sunday 13 September at the Athena in Leicester, and celebrated 100 years since the establishment of our diocese, and brought together more than 450 people from parishes, church schools, cathedral, chaplaincies and wider communities to give thanks to God for all that we are and will be - past, present and future.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Dame Sarah Mullally, arrived in Leicester on the Friday evening and spent the weekend visiting schools, churches, the Leicester Royal Infirmary and people and projects throughout the Diocese.

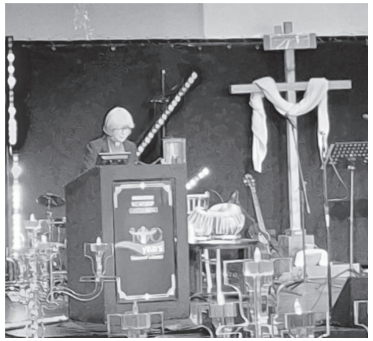
The Sunday afternoon was a mix of worship, celebration and memories of the past 100 years. A timeline of the last 100 years showed pictures of past Bishops and major events in the diocese.

Music and songs were provided by the Cathedral Junior Boys and Girls choir, together with contributions from the SoundCafe and Hands of Praise Deaf Choir.

And it wouldn't be a Church event without refreshments! Soft drinks were on each table, and tea, coffee and scones were served.

Bishop Martyn had a Q&A time with the Archbishop and Dame Sarah gave the Address and final Blessing







St Mary's Subscription Draw

September

First Prize	-	£40.00	-	No 117	-	Mrs I Hall
Second Prize	-	£20.00	-	No 146	-	Mrs B Lyon
Third Prize	-	£10.00	-	No 11	-	Mrs M Rogers

Some numbers still available – an excellent way to support the church and have some fun in these difficult times.

Contact Tom Cockerill on 01455 698949.

St Michael's Stoney Stanton 100 Club Draw

September

First Prize	-	£25.00	-	No 66	-	Christine Hartley
Second Prize	-	£15.00	-	No 100	-	Sue Kelly
Third Prize	-	£10.00	-	No 92	-	Marilyn Langley

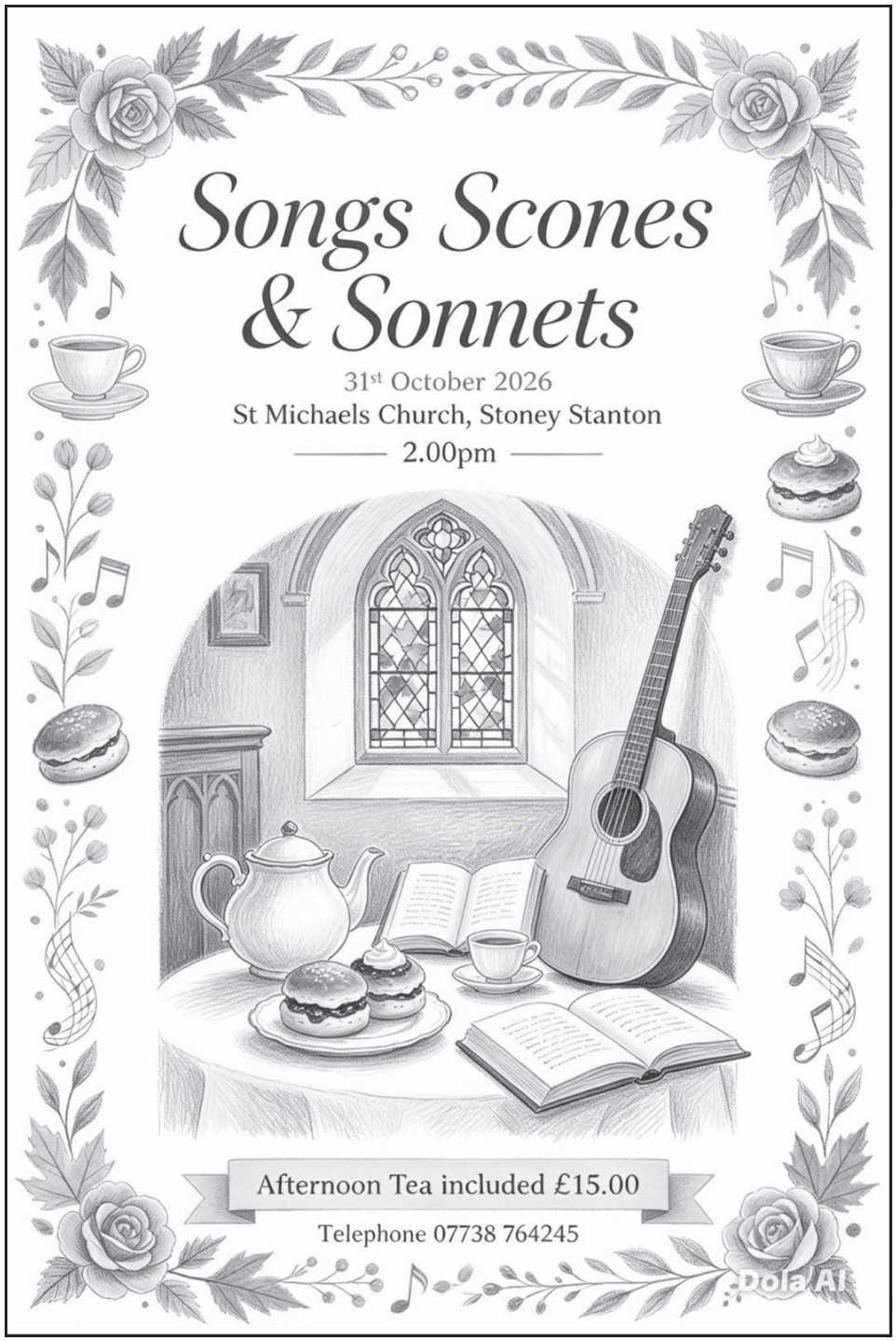
There are numbers available for this draw.
Please contact Julie on 07738 764245

Book the date

Our new curate was very eager to please. When I asked if I could have a church service when I eventually die, he responded with enthusiasm. "Of course," he said, grabbing his date book. "What day do you want?"

Others

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?





Music

The symphony musicians had little confidence in the man brought in to be their new conductor. Their fears were realized at the very first rehearsal. The cymbalist, realising that the conductor did not know what he was doing, angrily clashed his instruments together during a delicate, soft passage. The music stopped. The conductor, highly agitated, looked angrily around the orchestra, demanding, "Who did that? Who did that?"

W.I. Meetings etc……

Where at……	Date and Time	Speaker	Competition
Broughton Astley Village Hall	Tuesday 13 October 7:30 pm	"Workhouse Storytellers" Jill Steel	A Victorian Photo
Stoney Stanton St Michael's Church	Wednesday 14 October 7:30 pm	Annual Meeting	
Ladies Fellowship Group St Mary's Church Broughton Astley	Wednesday 14 October 2pm Contact Denise 285410 or Wendy 07779 194730 for more information	"My Father's Flag" Mollie Toye	

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Shampoo

Why I didn't realise this sooner? It's the shampoo I use in the shower that is my problem. When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning: 'FOR EXTRA VOLUME AND BODY.' No wonder I have been gaining weight.

Broad

Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.



Thinking about Prayer……..

Lectio Divina

How do you like to read? Do you rush through a book, impatient for the end? I have to confess that any mystery story will have me turning to the closing pages before I'm too far into the story to find out 'whodunnit'! But other books find me dwelling on things said, beautiful expressions, trends of thought, rereading, perhaps, a far, slower process.

And that is the invitation given to us in the ancient practice known as 'lectio' - the Latin word meaning 'reading'. We read, we mull over the words, we think about them, we pray with them, so much so they become part of our being, a means through which God can communicate with us.

'Lectio' is a way of praying with Scripture.

We read a passage, and as so often happens with Bible readings, something will strike us. It may be just a fragment, a word or phrase. It may be something longer where the whole theme demands our attention. But we stop awhile, we think about it, meditate upon it, stand back and reflect. It may awaken prayers in our hearts, needs which we need to bring before God. It may turn into one of those strange coincidences where the words we are confronted with speak exactly to our current condition.

And the time of prayer, will eventually turn into a simple period of resting in the presence of God, taking his words into our very being, and just absorbing them.

Lectio is not something to be rushed, it takes time. It may be useful to use alongside our daily Bible reading habit, whatever that may be. It may just be a way of reading through the Psalms, or the Gospel accounts, or one of the New Testament letters.

Its full description is Lectio Divina, or 'godly reading' and is just that. Its full description is a very ancient way of praying, going right back

Down

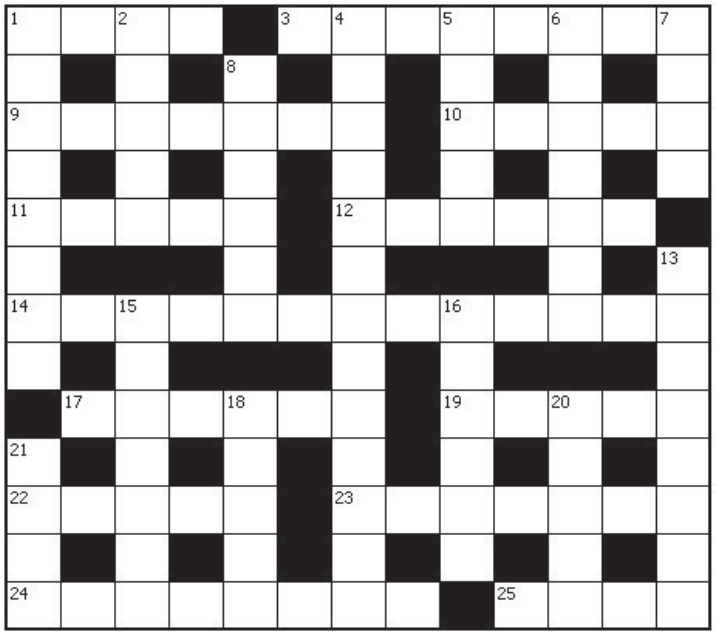
1 Give an account of (Mark 4:30) (8)
2 'I — — the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free' (Psalm 119:32) (3,2)
4 'He took the ephod, the other — — and the carved image' (Judges 18:20) (9,4)
5 'You are a chosen people, a — priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9) (5)
6 The meek, the merciful and the mourners are all this (Matthew 5:4–5, 7) (7)
7 Musical Instrument Digital Interface (1,1,1,1)
8 He was the son of Nun (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
13 'Let the little — come to me' (Matthew 19:14) (8)
15 'About three thousand were — — their number that day' (Acts 2:41) (5,2)
16 In John's vision, the wall of the new Jerusalem was made of this (Revelation 21:18) (6)
18 'Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly — a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Philippians 3:20) (5)
20 'Glorify the Lord with me: let us — his name together' (Psalm 34:3) (5)
21 Young Men's Christian Association (1,1,1,1)

September Crossword Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Labour. 4, Autumn. 7, Stay. 8, Darkness. 9, Reasoned. 13, Act. 16, Presbyterians. 17, Sat. 19, Ridicule. 24, Reproach. 25, Abib. 26, Celtic. 27, Intend.

DOWN:1,Lose.2,Blamerest.3,Radio.4,Agree.5,Tend.6,Music. 10, Sober. 11, Noted. 12, Doric. 13, Available. 14, Test. 15, Apes. 18, As Eve. 20, Isaac. 21, Ishvi. 22, Fret. 23, Ebed.

Crossword - October



Across

1 ‘Those who were standing near Paul said, “You — to insult God’s high priest?”’ (Acts 23:4) (4)
3 They were assigned to guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) (8)
9 ‘Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the — of — , the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite’ (1 Samuel 1:1) (3,4)
10 Surrender (Joshua 24:23) (5)
11 Where American livestock can be reared (5)
12 Listen (anag.) (6)
14 Alternative name for Kiriath Jearim (2 Samuel 6:2) (6,2,5)
17 He founded Westminster Abbey, — the Confessor (6)
19 Hebrew word for the place of the dead (5)
22 Allies of Persia in the fifth century BC (Esther 1:3) (5)
23 Where John Wesley was forced to preach a lot (4,3)
24 Rebellion against God; abandonment of religious belief (8)
25 Note (anag.) (4)

into the early centuries, and is recommended by timeless masters such as Benedict - a tradition well recommended

So, this month, just another way of ‘wasting time with God’, one which can, if we let it, move and direct our hearts in a very special way, God’s way, and that way may well surprise us at every turn.



Scammer

I got a call from a scammer who said, "I've got all of your passwords." I said, "Great. What are they? I'll grab a pen."

Sides

It was my wedding day, and no one was happier than my mother. But as she approached the church doors, an usher asked, "Which side are you on?"

"Oh, no," she said, dismayed. "Are they fighting already?"

Coffee Mornings

St Mary's Church, Broughton Astley

Saturday 3 October

10 am— 12 noon

Community Market and Coffee Morning

St Michael and All Angels Croft

Coffee Mornings

Every Tuesday 9:30—11:30

St Michael's Church, Stoney Stanton

Saturday 10 October

10 am - 12 noon

Coffee Morning

EFFFI (Elmesthorpe Friends Food and Flower Initiative)
Raising money for St Mary's Church and other local charities

Coffee Morning

Elmesthorpe Village Hall

10:00—11:30

Saturday 31 October

Hallowe'en of Course!
Come in Appropriate Fancy Dress!

All Welcome

St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival

Is returning on 11, 12 & 13 December and your help is needed. We encourage as many of you as possible to display trees:

local businesses, organisations, families and individuals will be welcomed.

Trees can be all sizes and shapes, but we will need to know the height and width of your tree and whether you require mains supply.

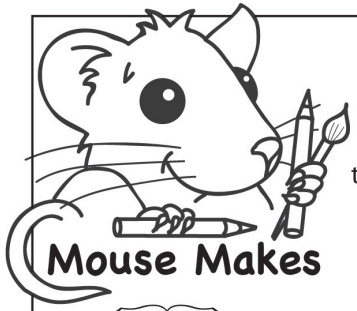
Forms to complete with all the required information are at the back of church or available from Moira Cooper

by email moira763@gmail.com



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 **Bible** is a collection of books, written by many different people who were helped and inspired by God. The **Bible** includes books of history, law, poetry and songs, wisdom, testimony, letters and prophecy.

The **Bible** encourages us, corrects us and teaches us about God and how we can be friends with Him.





1. How many books are there in the New Testament?



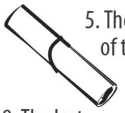
2. Which book of the Bible has the shortest title?



3. The Word of God is sharper than a two edged _ _ _ _ _
Hebrews 4:12

B	I	B	L	E	S	U	N	D	A	Y

4. He was an Old Testament prophet that has a book named after him.



5. The first book of the Bible.



6. God's word is like?
A _ _ _ _
and a _ _ _ _ _
Psalm 119:105

8. The last book in the Bible.



9. The Old Testament book of poetry and songs.



11. The last book in the Old Testament.

10. Who wrote the third book of the New Testament?

7. What are the first four books of the New Testament known as?

12. Which book tells the story of the spread of Christianity?



13. The Bible is also known as the
_ _ _ _ _
of God.
Hebrews 4:12

14. A book of the Bible named after a woman





Oct26 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Thursday 24 September saw St Michael's Church Stoney Stanton holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning, organised by Wendy and Linda, wearing their Macmillan caps!

Once advertised, there had been many offers of cakes and there was a splendid array to choose from.

Caroline organised the raffle, with a good mix of prizes.

It was lovely to see so many people coming to support such a worthwhile cause.

Grateful thanks go to all who baked for the occasion, donated raffle prizes and supported Macmillan.

We will be sending them £625.

Thank You

Stories

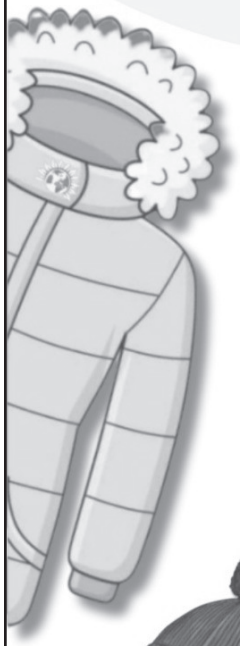
As part of his talk at a banquet, our minister told some jokes and a few funny stories. Since he planned to use the same anecdotes at a meeting the next day, he asked reporters covering the event not to include them in their articles. Reading the paper the following morning, he noticed that one well-meaning cub reporter had ended his story on the banquet with the observation: "The minister told a number of stories that cannot be published."

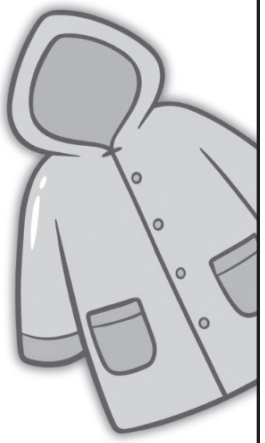
Harvest Festival
Quiz Night

Saturday 3rd October 6pm,
St Mary's Church, Broughton Astley

- Come and enjoy a Ploughmans and Apple Pie, and a quiz!
  - £10 person – pay on door
  - Bring your own drinks
  - Raffle
  - Proceeds to Charity
- Everyone welcome!
- **Please add your name to a list** at the back of each church so we have numbers for catering.

FREE COATS FOR EVERYONE





SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2026

2.30PM - 4PM

WHETSTONE MEMORIAL HALL





Kids Winter Coats
Adult Coats
Wellie Boots
Warm Scarves
Winter Hats
Gloves

Donations on the day welcome!





Everything free, everyone welcome

Promoted by Blaby Green Party at 2A, Blackthorn House, Birmingham B3 1RL

Canon Paul Hardingham looks back on a national tragedy…

Aberfan - 60 years on

On 21 October 1966 the Aberfan disaster took place in South Wales. A colliery slag heap collapsed, releasing a torrent of slurry onto the village. It engulfed a number of houses and Pantglas Junior School, killing 116 children and 28 adults. It was a disaster that shocked the nation. As we reflect on it today, we are left asking the question, 'where was God when this happened?'

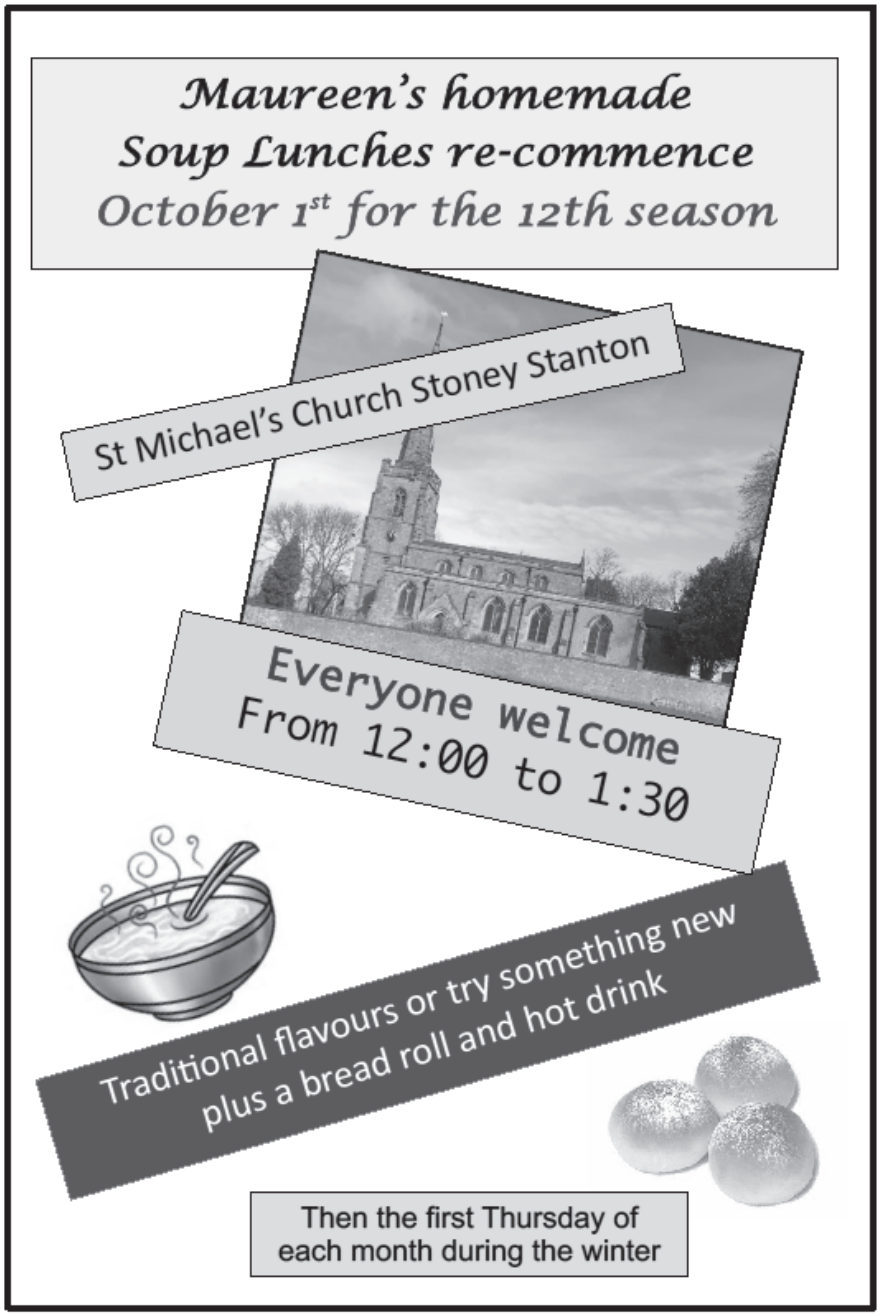
At the time there was a mixture of strong emotions: grief and sadness over the loss of those who had died, and anger against the Coal Board in allowing the disaster. However, people gave their energy to support each another. A local Baptist Minister, Revd Kenneth Hayes, who lost his eldest son at the school, responded in this way: 'For 36 hours he was working non-stop either at the school, or going around comforting bereaved and stricken families and kept open house for many who came seeking news and comfort.'

How should we respond to such an incident? 'Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?' (Romans 8:35). Paul reminds us that even in our darkest times of loss, God is with us to bring comfort. 'Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.' (34). Paul also tells us that Jesus understands our suffering and is praying for us. 'If God is for us, who can be against us?' (31). We can let go of bitterness and blame, because God is a God of justice.

King Charles III (then Prince of Wales) on the 50th anniversary summed up the community's response: 'darkest sorrow, but also the most shining selflessness.'



The white arches in Bryntaf Cemetery, Aberfan, which mark the graves of children killed in the disaster.



All in the month of OCTOBER

It was:

800 years ago, on 3 October 1226 that St Francis of Assisi, Italian friar, deacon and mystic, died. One of the most venerated religious figures in Christianity, and founder of the Franciscan Order.

300 years ago, on 28 October 1726 that Jonathan Swift's novel Gulliver's Travels was published.

175 years ago, on 18 October 1851 that Herman Melville's novel Moby-Dick was published.

125 years ago, on 12 October 1901 that US President Theodore Roosevelt renamed the Executive Mansion the White House. It is the official residence and workplace of the US President.

Also 125 years ago, on 19 October 1901 that Edward Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1 and March No. 2 were performed for the first time, in Liverpool.

100 years ago, on 14 October 1926 that the children's book Winnie-the-Pooh, by A A Milne, was published.

90 years ago, from 5 to 31 October that The Jarrow March took place. 200 men set off from Jarrow in north-east England to Westminster, to draw attention to the severe unemployment and poverty in their area following the closure of a shipyard.

80 years ago, on 15 October 1946 that Hermann Goering, German Nazi leader, died. He was sentenced to death at the Nuremberg Trials but poisoned himself with cyanide on the eve of his execution.

Also 80 years ago, on 20 October 1946 that the puppet character Muffin the Mule made his first TV appearance on the BBC series For the Children.

75 years ago, on 18 October 1951 that Snowdonia National Park was established in Wales. It was Britain's third National Park.

Also 75 years ago, on 30 October 1951 that Dartmoor National Park was established in the UK.

Also 75 years ago, on 31 October 1951 that zebra crossings were introduced in Britain. The first one was in Slough, Berkshire.

70 years ago, on 17 October 1956 that Britain's first nuclear power station, Calder Hall in Cumbria, was officially opened. It closed in March 2003, nearly 47 years later.

Also 70 years ago, on 23 October to 10 November 1956 that the Hungarian Revolution began and was crushed by the Soviet Union.

65 years ago, on 6th October 1961 that US President John F Kennedy advised Americans to build bomb shelters to protect themselves from nuclear fallout, in the event of an attack by the Soviet Union.

60 years ago, on 21 October 1966 that the Aberfan disaster took place in South Wales. A colliery spoil tip (slag heap) collapsed and fell onto the village. Worst hit was Pantglas Junior School. In all, 116 children and 28 adults were killed.

50 years ago, on 4 October 1976 that the InterCity 125 High Speed Train service began operating in the UK.

Also 50 years ago, on 25 October 1976 that the National Theatre in London officially opened.

40 years ago, on 9 October 1986 that Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical The Phantom of the Opera premiered in London.

Also 40 years ago, on 29 October 1986 that the M25 orbital motorway around Greater London was opened.

15 years ago, on 31 October 2011 that the world's population reached seven billion.