

# CANALSIDE NEWS

## for OCTOBER 2025



### Thought from Chris

We have just coming to the end of Creationtide, which runs from the 1st of September to the 4th of October. This is a time in the church year specifically set aside to celebrate creation and the goodness of the world around us. That God created the world and made it good is something we say regularly in church as part of the Creed that starts “We believe in God, the creator, maker of heaven and earth and of all things, seen and unseen.” It’s something we have been particularly thinking about in the Benefice this year as we have celebrated Plough Sunday, Rogationtide, Lammas and will finish this particular season of Creationtide with our Harvest festival. (Harvest service at St Michael’s on Sunday 5th October; Harvest Supper at the Village Hall in Semington on Saturday 18th October, tickets available now!)

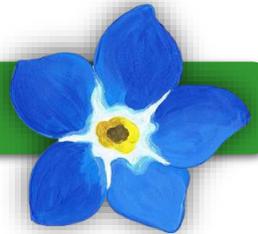
I’ve been learning a lot this year about the issues we face in trying to protect our environment and look after the world God has given us. Although there are still climate sceptics who believe there is no human-caused climate change and people who consider what changes we do see to be natural processes, the regular warming and cooling of the planet over millions of years, many others see the evidence as unequivocal. The burning of fossil fuels, as well as some other factors like increases in methane production, has caused the warming of the planet.

One of the effects we’re already seeing is that sea rise is causing devastation and loss of life. Sometimes this is obvious, like rising sea levels forcing communities to move, which impacts more people who are poor than it does people with more wealth. Sometimes it is less obvious: one of the factors in the terrible flooding seen earlier this year in Texas was because of the increased temperature in the seas around the Gulf of Mexico (or Gulf of

America). Storms and hurricanes feed on higher temperatures and this contributed to the disaster.

What has any of this got to do with what we do in church? Well, through the services I've already mentioned and our reverence for God's creation, we want to think about how to take care of our world. To preach, without apology, for action that promotes protection for the environment and to stop the harm that is still ongoing.

There are three things that I keep coming back to. Celebrating the beauty of the world around us; lamenting the harm that has been done to the natural world; acting as stewards of the earth, rather than seeking to exploit it. To me, this is part of a life of faith but is also crucial for all of us. Looking around us and being joyful at just how wonderful the world is; recognising the damage we've done; trying to do better.



## In Loving Memory for All Souls

Our annual In Loving Memory Service will take place on Sunday 2nd November at St Michael's at 3pm.

This is a Benefice wide Service at which we remember those we have loved and lost, and all are very welcome to join us. The names of those whose funerals, memorial services or interments have taken place in the Benefice during the last three years will be read out during the service together with all those named in the Book of Remembrance at St Michael's. If there are others that you would like us to name during the service, please write their names on the list which is at the back of church or let Michael know by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

## Used Postage Stamps

Thank you to all those who have passed on all their used postage stamps to Bill and Marilyn Stubbs for the Bible Society. Please keep them coming and use the Storehouse church porch containers for dropping them off from which Bill will collect them.

## Could you be the next Foundation Governor at Hilperton School?

As a Foundation Governor you represent the Church to the school and the school to the church and have a particular role in maintaining the Christian ethos of the school. The Hilperton School governing body already has two excellent foundation governors, so you would not be serving in this role alone, but the PCC wish to appoint a third, to replace Joy, who has completed her term of office.



All school governors are volunteers and their role is threefold:

- to ensure the clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction for the school;
- to hold the school accountable for the quality of education;
- to hold the school accountable for the use of finance and resources and make sure the money is well spent.

If you would be interested in the important and vital role, please speak with either Chris or Joy for more information.

### 100 Club Winners

Congratulations to recent winners of the 100 Club :

July: Jim Banks

August: Roger Emes.

### Michael's Phone Number

Please note I no longer have a landline telephone so only use by mobile number to contact me 07795400262. Thankyou

 **LIVE at SHAW**

**Andrew Rumsey**

Bishop of Ramsbury -

An evening of Poems, Readings, Songs and  
Guitar Playing

**Christ Church, Shaw**

**Thursday 23 October 7.30 pm**

**Tickets £10**

**From Spindles Whitley or**

**Reservations at**

**[aswparish@gmail.com](mailto:aswparish@gmail.com)**

## Advent Calendars



I will be ordering Real Advent Calendars again this year. This is the only one with Fairtrade chocolate and a copy of the Christmas story. It supports charitable projects, and sadly no supermarkets stock it. The cost - £4.95 each if we order 18 or more, otherwise £6.00. More details from <https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk>

To ensure we have them for 1st December

I will need orders by Sunday 2nd November please. Bev Woodward  
01380 870784.

St Michael's and St Mary Magdalen's Churches

# AUTUMN COFFEE MORNING

**Saturday 18th October**

**10am - 12 Noon**

**St Mary Magdalen's in Horse Road  
Stalls / Cakes / Raffle**

**£2 Admission  
All Welcome**

## Tuesday's Morning Prayer

On Tuesday 30th September we will not be meeting online for Morning Prayer, but in person in St. Michael's Church at 9.30am.

Going forward we anticipate an in person Morning Prayer on the last Tuesday of each month, and details will be in the Newsletter Diary.

On the other Tuesdays Morning Prayer will continue online as before and the link is in the diary.

# The Canalside Benefice CODE OF CONDUCT



## Our Vision

<i>Discipleship and Worship</i>	<i>Going beyond our walls (being at the heart of our communities and reaching out to those we don't yet know)</i>
<i>Engagement with children, young people and families</i>	<i>Financial stability</i>

As part of our vision, we seek to support everyone engaging in deeper discipleship and in worshipping God, and so we want to make sure everyone feels welcome. Everyone should be able to come to church, confident that they will receive discipleship and that they can worship God.

To make sure this happens, we expect everyone to care for each other. This means we should seek to minimise disruption or feelings of discomfort wherever possible.

We welcome and encourage everyone.  
However, disruptive, disrespectful or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated.  
People behaving in these ways will be asked to leave.

This includes:

- Using our voices respectfully, including being quiet when others are listening.
- If coming in late, select a seat with as little disruption to others as possible.
- Try not to talk or chat during Communion so those praying are not disturbed.

If you feel uncomfortable when attending church, please speak to:

Revd Chris Hunter (Rector)  
Mob: 07396 875236 Home: 01225 975510  
Email: [rector.canalside@gmail.com](mailto:rector.canalside@gmail.com)

Revd Joy Albone (Associate Priest)  
Mob: 07931 638524  
Email: [revjoyalbone@gmail.com](mailto:revjoyalbone@gmail.com)

Stella Wilkes (Parish Safeguarding Officer)  
Email: [safeguarding.canalside@gmail.com](mailto:safeguarding.canalside@gmail.com)



## Prayer Requests



It is important that we pray for all who seek our support. Please let Michael know of anyone who particularly needs our prayers. Do ensure that you have their permission.

### ***This month we pray for..***

+ Alison Meader	+ Dave, Rosemary, Matthew & Family	+ Maureen Mitchell
+ Amelia-Lily and family	+ Eve and Jim Banks	+ Mike Aldridge
+ Andrew Margetts	+ Hannah, Ash, Oliver & baby Leo	+ Ntombi and Family
+ Audrey Sheppard	+ Heather	+ Richard Marshman
+ Barbara Tucker	+ Helen Thomas	+ Roger Emes
+ Bob Cradock	+ Hilary & Mark Heaton	+ Rosa Light
+ Catherine	+ Irene Hicks	+ Val, Phil and family
+ Cathy and Ian	+ Isabelle & Family	+ Viv and Jan
+ Chloe Stevens	+ Jeannette	
+ Colin Jackson	+ Joanna Martin	
+ Collette Miyagawa	+ Laurence & Family	
+ Colston Carpenter	+ Maggie & Family	



- We pray for all those who mourn at this time particularly the family and friends of Graham Baldwin and Daphne Peat.
- We pray for the people of Sudan at this time of conflict, including Archbishop Ezekiel as he leads the Anglican Church there.

## Science and Faith in Pew and Pulpit

4<sup>th</sup> October 2025, 10am to 2pm. The Science and Religion Forum is hosting a half-day, online event, *Science and Faith in Pew and Pulpit*, looking at the importance of engaging with science in the church context

and how we can introduce science, and the science-faith dialogue, into the life of our churches. Speakers are Dr Ruth Bancewicz, Church Engagement Director at the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, and the Revd Dr Jennifer Brown, former Science Missioner in the Oxford Diocese and until recently Director of Training of the College of Preachers. The cost for the event is £15 for SRF members, £20 for non-members. Places can be booked by going to <https://www.srforum.org/anniversary-pew-pulpit>.

## Foodbanks Update

Together with many other Foodbanks across the country both Melksham and Trowbridge are desperate for more donations, as the demand is very high at present, so please give as generously as you are able.

# Storehouse Foodbank



## HELP!

If you can donate any food or hygiene items PLEASE, pop them in our trolleys or come on down and bring them to us. If you are a little flush; you can do online shopping with ASDA as they will deliver to us on your behalf. Please drop into the building as we now do a breakfast for the homeless so eggs are always needed plus cheese, butter bacon etc as we have a fridge freezer, and fridge. Fruit and vegetables are always welcome but do not put in a trolley. Please continue to donate to us so we can keep blessing the people of Trowbridge. Thank you all.

**Please use the collection boxes in the porches of St Mary Magdalen's and St Michael's to drop off food donations etc. Bill Stubbs then very kindly**

**collects everything up and drops it off at Storehouse. As always Bill thankyou so much for all you do on this.**

If you prefer you can make a one off financial donation or support Trowbridge Storehouse regularly, please follow the link below and select storehouse.

<https://westwiltsvineyard.churchsuite.co.uk/donate/fund/zk54op3a>

**Storehouse is always in need of carrier bags**



Melksham Foodbank continue to need all items but in particular at the moment require :

Packet Soup, Tinned Vegetables and Pulses

Tinned Baked Beans, but all items are still urgently needed. The demand for support is very high (please ensure all items are well within the best before date). They can also take large bags of rice, tea bags, sugar & pasta as these can be decanted into smaller bags for distribution. Please take your donations to the porch at St George's, Semington before 6pm on Wednesday.

Our continued support of Melksham FoodBank and Trowbridge StoreHouse is vital, and a part of our response to God's generosity to us.

## A Prayer for World Peace

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



# CANALSIDE DIARY

Please pray for all events taking place in the next few weeks

Day	Date	Time	Event details	Location
<b>SEPTEMBER 2025</b>				
Tu	30 <sup>th</sup>	0930	Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer (NOT online – see separate notice)	St Michael's
		1300	LWL/LPA Meeting	St Michael's Room
<b>OCTOBER 2025</b>				
W	1 <sup>st</sup>	1000	Midweek Morning Worship	St Michael's
Th	2 <sup>nd</sup>	0900	Semington Morning Prayer <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88553953942?pwd=1EHGGg18bBqqYKytMMRbYvZ5JZFZNM.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88553953942?pwd=1EHGGg18bBqqYKytMMRbYvZ5JZFZNM.1</a>	Online
F	3 <sup>rd</sup>	0930-1100	Toddlers@theTin	St Mary Magdalen's
Tu	7 <sup>th</sup>	0930	Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89678887943?pwd=IKy2vBYNviwibNcoWUqgTtf4hpwQTA.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89678887943?pwd=IKy2vBYNviwibNcoWUqgTtf4hpwQTA.1</a>	Online
W	8 <sup>th</sup>	1000	Midweek Communion	St Michael's
Th	9 <sup>th</sup>	0900	Semington Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
		1430-1600	Friendship Group	St Mary Magdalen's
F	10 <sup>th</sup>	0930-1100	Toddlers@theTin	St Mary Magdalen's
Tu	14 <sup>th</sup>	0930	Hilperton School's Harvest Service	St Michael's
		0930	Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
W	15 <sup>th</sup>	1000	Midweek Morning Worship	St Michael's
		1030	Harvest Service	Staverton House
Th	16 <sup>th</sup>	0900	Semington Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
		0930	St George's School Harvest Service	St George's Church
		1000-1200	Community Café	St Mary Magdalen's

F	17 <sup>th</sup>	0930-1100	<b>Toddlers@theTin</b>	St Mary Magdalen's
Sa	18 <sup>th</sup>	1000-1200	<b>Autumn Coffee Morning</b>	St Mary Magdalen's
		1900	<b>Semington's Harvest Supper</b>	Village Hall
Tu	21 <sup>st</sup>	0930	<b>Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer</b> Use link above	Online
		1430	<b>Staverton School's Harvest Service</b>	Staverton School
W	22 <sup>nd</sup>	1000	<b>Midweek Communion</b>	St Michael's
Th	23 <sup>rd</sup>	0900	<b>Semington Morning Prayer</b> Use link above	Online
F	24 <sup>th</sup>	0930-1100	<b>Toddlers@theTin</b>	St Mary Magdalen's
Tu	28 <sup>th</sup>	0930	<b>Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer (NOT online – see separate notice)</b>	St Michael's
W	29 <sup>th</sup>	1000	<b>Midweek Morning Worship</b>	St Michael's
Th	30 <sup>th</sup>	0900	<b>Semington Morning Prayer</b> Use link above	Online
<b>NOVEMBER 2025</b>				
Tu	4 <sup>th</sup>	0930	<b>Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer</b> Use link above	Online
W	5 <sup>th</sup>	1000	<b>Midweek Communion</b>	St Michael's
Th	6 <sup>th</sup>	0900	<b>Semington Morning Prayer</b> Use link above	Online
F	7 <sup>th</sup>	0930-1100	<b>Toddlers@theTin</b>	St Mary Magdalen's



**Hello – I'm just a lonely little chair looking for a good home. My previous owners abandoned me recently at the Silent Auction. Although I put on a brave face for the auction no one put in a bid for me and it now looks like I'm heading for the tip. Please help me find a new home before it's too late. Contact Michael**

# DATES FOR DIARIES

Month	Day	Date	Time	Event details	Location
OCTOBER	Sat	18 <sup>th</sup>	1000-1200	<b>AUTUMN COFFEE MORNING</b>	St Mary Magdalen's
			evening	<b>SEMINGTON HARVEST SUPPER</b>	Semington Village Hall
NOVEMBER	Sat	8 <sup>th</sup>	1000-1200	<b>REMEMBRANCE COFFEE MORNING</b>	Hilperton House
	Sat	22 <sup>nd</sup>	TBD	<b>CHRISTMAS FESTIVE FAYRE</b>	St Mary's Magdalen's
	Fri	28 <sup>th</sup>	1900	<b>QUIZ NIGHT</b>	St Mary Magdalen's

## CANALSIDE CONTACTS

<b>Rector</b>	Rev. Chris Hunter	07396875236 01225 975510	<a href="mailto:rector.canalside@gmail.com">rector.canalside@gmail.com</a>
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Rev. Joy Albone	07931638524	<a href="mailto:revjoyalbone@gmail.com">revjoyalbone@gmail.com</a>
<b>Office</b>	Michael Gamble	07795400262	<a href="mailto:canalsideoffice@gmail.com">canalsideoffice@gmail.com</a>
<b>Churchwardens</b>			
<b>Semington</b>	David Wildsmith	c/o 01380 870784	c/o <a href="mailto:jackbev.woodward@gmail.com">jackbev.woodward@gmail.com</a>
<b>Hilperton and Staverton</b>	James Newton	07803904947	<a href="mailto:jpnewton@churchmouse.org.uk">jpnewton@churchmouse.org.uk</a>
	Martyn Carpenter	07831309377	<a href="mailto:martyncarpenter55@gmail.com">martyncarpenter55@gmail.com</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://canalsidebenefice.org.uk">canalsidebenefice.org.uk</a>		
<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/canalsideparishes">https://www.facebook.com/canalsideparishes</a>		



# CHURCH SERVICES *in* CANALSIDE BENEFICE



	HILPERTON St Michael's	HILPERTON St Mary Magdalen's	SEMINGTON'S St George's	WHADDON St Mary the Virgin
28 <sup>th</sup> September Trinity 15 and Michaelmas	<b>10.30am 'EXPLORE' SERVICE for MICHAELMAS</b>	<b>4pm TEA@theTIN</b>		
5 <sup>th</sup> October Trinity 16 and Harvest	<b>10.30am HOLY COMMUNION for HARVEST</b>			<b>3pm BCP HOLY COMMUNION for HARVEST</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> October Trinity 17		<b>10.30am HOLY COMMUNION</b>	<b>9.15am HOLY COMMUNION</b>	
19 <sup>th</sup> October Trinity 18	<b>10.30am HOLY COMMUNION</b>		<b>9.15am BREAKFAST CHURCH for HARVEST</b>	
26 <sup>th</sup> October Last Sunday After Trinity		<b>10.30am 'EXPLORE' SERVICE</b>  <b>4pm TEA@theTIN</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup> November Fourth Sunday Before Advent	<b>10.30am HOLY COMMUNION</b>  <b>3pm IN LOVING MEMORY SERVICE</b>			

Full details of upcoming services and events can be found on our website [www.canalside.org.uk](http://www.canalside.org.uk)