

All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

The Magazine



October—November 2026

All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

Coffee Mornings

Wednesday at 10.30am
in the Parish Hall

Coffee mornings are held
on the 4th Wednesday
of the month

2026

23rd September

28th October

25th November

2027

27th January

24th February

24th March

No Coffee Mornings in August
and December

Refreshments

Raffle

Everybody
welcome

Entry £1

Conversation
with friends

Celebrating All Saints' Day

Sunday 1st November

Join us at our 10:30am service as we
give thanks for our church and all those
people who have influenced and
inspired us.

A service remembering
those who have died

3pm Sunday
1st November



We remember with love those who have
died during the last year or so. Families
and friends of those who have lost a loved
one are invited to attend our services of
remembrance. We will light a candle in
memory of each of those we have lost.

All Saints' Church, Thornton Hough

Autumn Fair

Saturday 14th November
in the Parish Hall

Stalls will include plants, Bottle Tombola, raffle and more.

Entry £3 for adults and £1 for school age children
(including a drink and a biscuit)

A Time for Gathering

The wisdom poetry of Ecclesiastes reminds us that “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.” As the days shorten and the feverishly hot days of summer drift into memory, we come to the heart of autumn.

This is a time to gather: to ensure that tender plants in the garden are protected from the first frosts, to pick the last of any fruit and vegetables, to collect the falling leaves – whilst leaving some at the margins to support hibernating creatures – and to plant some bulbs with the promise of clumps of colour in the springtime.

This is a time to gather as a community, too. Whilst the days may be darkening, we give thanks for those who lighten our lives. On the morning of Sunday, 1st November, we gather to celebrate our church’s name-day: All Saints’. We remember all those saints who have inspired, encouraged and supported us in our faith, whether they are the ones from scripture and church history, or those people of faith we have known personally through the years.

On the same day in the afternoon, we will turn our thoughts to remembering those who we have loved and lost; our Faithful Departed. As dusk falls, we light candles and recall them by name: a gathering of love, grief and gratitude.

Our thoughts then turn to participating in a much bigger gathering: Remembrance. We will again adorn the archway to the church with poppies and use our Remembrance altar-cloth – all part of a corporate effort from members of the congregation, their families and wider community to gather our creativity in response to the sacrifice of all those who have given their lives in service to the country in two World Wars and subsequent wars and conflicts.

Our acts of gathering are not designed to be self-serving. Rather, this season helps us to strengthen bonds of love, peace and generosity. Those are gifts we can share with others, especially in these times in our world when they can feel in short supply.

Love and blessings.

Vicky





From the Churchwardens



By the time you read this we will be in Autumn and hopefully enjoying gentle weather and the lovely changing colours in the trees and hedgerows. What a wonderful season it is. Thank you to Margaret Gamble for the beautiful harvest decorations in church and to all those who adopted a window and decorated it for Harvest Week. All were very impressive. Did you notice Linda's Eco and Fair Trade window displaying essential everyday household items including chocolate treats for the food bank? This supports our Eco Church aims and also provided ideas that we could all adopt when we go shopping.

Thank you also to our small band of flower arrangers and especially to Caroline Lancelyn-Green who so consistently steps in and creates beautiful arrangements using flowers and greenery from her garden. You may also have noticed that we have deliberately moved away from using oasis in flower arrangements, choosing instead to use vases in our desire to be more sustainable.

We have now received the Quinquennial Inspection Report from our architect, which is comprehensive, balanced and informative. It is appreciative of the architectural value of All Saints', our routine maintenance regime and is also sympathetic to the competing demands on our finances. The report will help us to plan and budget for the remedial works identified in priority order, such as overhauling the rainwater goods in the next 18 – 24 months and then further steeplejack works.

We would like to close this article with another thank you. Sincere thanks to all of you who donate to All Saints' Church week in, week out. Without your generosity, we simply could not continue. On top of this you have given even more to help us to pay for the replacement heating system. Thank you so much! We are close to resolving this and hope to have heating restored to the church by late October.

Patsy and June

Notes on the PCC meeting held on 9th September

As temperatures cool and we move into Autumn it is time to look forward. **The flyer** has been distributed throughout the Parish inviting people to come and join us at our **Harvest celebrations**, at Toybox, at the Coffee Mornings, our special services and our Autumn Fair.

The PCC learnt that good progress has been made towards installing a new **church heating system**: over the summer the DAC accepted our proposal to install a new (more efficient) gas boiler and radiant heaters in the Vicar's Vestry and the Choir Vestry. After a 28-day public consultation period we are now waiting for the Chancellor's final approval and granting of the Faculty. Tenders have been invited, received and evaluated by the Heating Team and the external Heating Consultant has been asked to comment. Only when we receive the Faculty from the Chancellor can we proceed and award the contract: the timing of this is not in our control. Hopefully we are close to having a new system installed and can look forward to a warmer church this winter. Members of the congregation have been very generous in their support, and we have raised over £10,000 so far to pay for it. The PCC would like to say a big 'thank you' to all the donors.

The next item on the agenda was the proposal being put forward to **revitalise the Deaneries** in the Diocese. We have been asked to consider and provide feedback on the proposals. Deaneries are groupings of parishes. We have two representatives (Linda Arch and June Allcock) who attend the meetings of the Deanery Synod and feed back to the PCC. Deaneries help to build links between parishes and are often asked to look at new policies, initiatives and developments. Each Deanery has a Rural Dean who supports the other clergy and the parishes, particularly when a parish is without a vicar. Vicky is currently the Rural Dean for Wirral South Deanery, our current deanery, and has provided invaluable support to many of the parishes. Links have strengthened between us and others in the deanery. The Diocese are now proposing to enlarge the deaneries, reduce their number and change the groupings. Under the proposal All Saints' (along with Bromborough and Eastham) would go into a deanery including Heswall, Poulton Lancelyn, some of Birkenhead, Oxton, New Ferry, Prenton, Tranmere and Woodchurch. We are currently grouped with parishes including Neston, Willaston, Burton, Hooton, Ellesmere Port, Capenhurst, Backford, Great Saughall, Great Sutton, Bromborough.

The PCC is concerned about the proposals and commented that:

Our "character" goes unrecognised.

- We're being lumped in with the big suburban parishes rather than rural ones.
- We have positive links with Neston – our existing grouping collaborates

well in vacancies. We have similar ways of working pastorally. Plans appear to ignore this.

- Some of those in the new grouping do not think there should be women priests –it isn't just a geographical issue.
- The PCC is concerned about the unknown and being swamped by the larger parishes.
- Our church and local activities – such as health, local shopping, bus links, direct us towards Neston, not places such as New Ferry and Poulton Lancelyn.
- The churchmanship, scripture interpretation and worship styles are different in our close neighbours in the proposed new grouping. We are much more aligned with neighbours in the current grouping.
- We currently have good joint services – the new grouping would make life difficult for those without their own transport.

It feels like the proposals “throw the baby out with the bathwater.” Vicky has done some excellent work as Rural Dean and all the links she has forged would be lost.

Some of the positive parts of the proposals include specifying what the Area Dean (new title proposed for Rural Dean) does, care of clergy (by a new Assistant Area Dean), bringing more laypeople into roles in the deanery and adding Assistant Archdeacons to the Diocesan structure. How some of these would be funded and resourced is unclear. If you want to know more about the proposals please visit <https://www.chesterdiocese.org/content/deanery-revitalisation>

The Fabric, Health and Safety team reported that they had been sent the **Quinquennial Report** by the Church Architect, Jennifer Chambers. It was positive and written by someone who appreciates the building itself, understands churches and recognises all the hard work that has gone into keeping it in good condition. It identifies some areas that will need attention before the next Quinquennial, in particular remedial work on the rainwater goods. The team have also been getting risk assessments updated.

The Finance Report highlighted the high electricity costs for the church since the boiler failed. In addition, a meter understood to be SMART was not sending data as expected and bills were estimated (lower than the actual cost). A SMART meter has now been fitted and problems with the bills have been remedied. Problems with CAF Bank have also been causing challenges. CAF shut down its online system from July 24th for ten days because of an attempted fraud. It did not fully recover until the end of August.

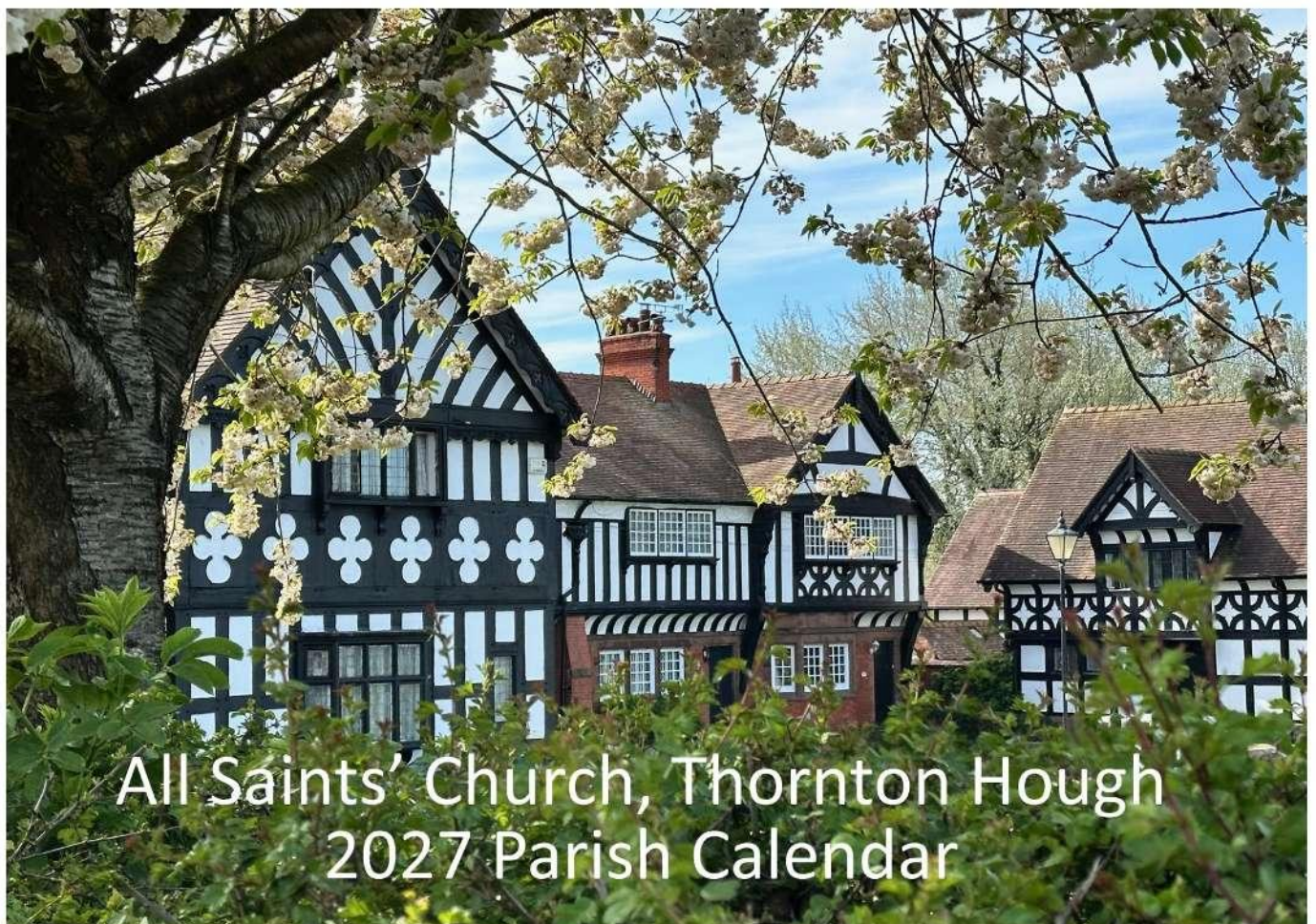
Gill, who ran the **dance classes**, has now retired and we have lost valuable income from hall rental. It is hoped that we can find new renters soon.

The PCC also received a report on **Safeguarding** and agreed to adopt the Policy for Responding to Domestic Abuse, provided by Chester Diocese.

The Eco Church report highlighted showings of the 45-minute People's Climate Emergency Briefing video on Thursday 24th September 2026 in the South Transept of Chester Cathedral, St Werburgh St, Chester CH1 2DY (to book go to <https://chestercathedral.com/events/event/peoples-emergency-briefing>) and on Friday 9th October at 8pm in Thornton Hough WI (to book go to nebriefing.org). The showings are not recommended for children.

In a world of challenges, it is good to look at all the blessings that we have been given and say thank you to God. We look forward to welcoming you to our services and our events over the coming weeks.

Sue Stinson
PCC Secretary



The 2027 Calendar will be on sale in early October from Brian Morris, Margaret Gamble and at the Village Hall Coffee Shop. The cost is **still only £5 each**. The money raised will support the work of All Saints' Church .

We had an excellent selection of photos to choose from and the twelve selected show off our village in its best light. Many thanks to all the photographers who submitted photos for consideration. Also a big thank you to all the sponsors who cover the cost of printing the calendars.

Joseph and Eleanor Hirst

This magnificent window above the altar at the east end of the church was the gift of Eleanor Hirst, the wife of Joseph Hirst who was responsible for building All Saints'. It is in memory of their only child, Mary Beaumont, who died in childbirth aged just 26 years. When the church was consecrated in 1868 it was the only stained-glass window in the building.

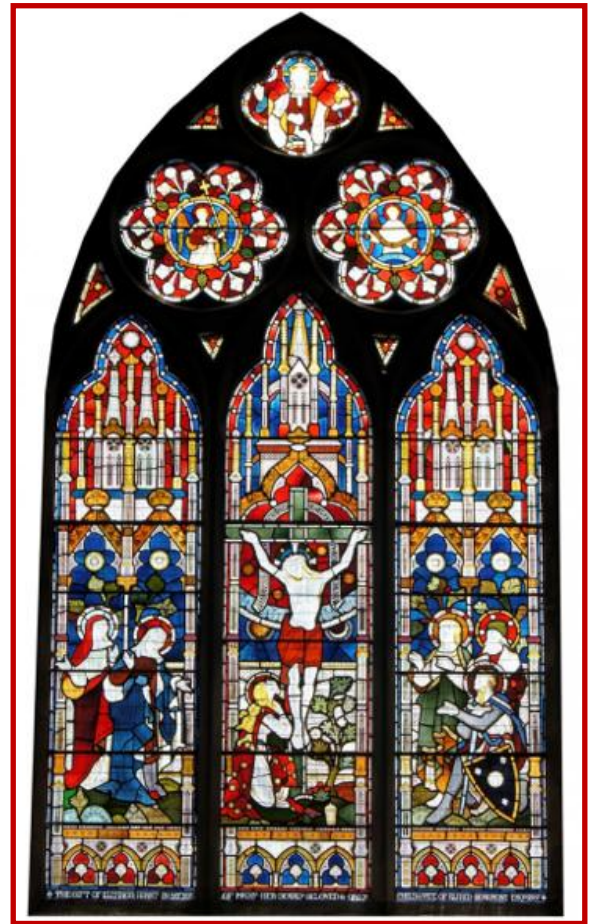
One of fourteen children, Joseph Hirst was born on New Year's day 1805 in Meltham near Huddersfield in Yorkshire. Like his father, Joseph started out working in the domestic woollen industry, but was soon operating his own spinning mill. His business grew rapidly and by 1832 he had moved to larger premises at a farm in the nearby village of Wilshaw, originally owned by his uncle, which he then converted into a mill for spinning and weaving.

His business grew steadily and the Wilshaw farm site was redeveloped to provide a warehouse, weaving room with 18 looms, a counting house, dyeworks, gasworks, stables and housing for the manager and workers. He then concentrated on manufacturing in bulk for the rich Huddersfield market and in 1842 he rented more premises in Meltham. Joseph established a reputation throughout England as a first-class woollen manufacturer and even exhibited samples at London's Great Exhibition of 1851 where he receiving a prize medal for "*great excellence of manufacture*". By 1861 he had 196 employees.

Thirty years earlier in May 1831 Joseph had married Eleanor Ramsey, nine years his junior. Their marriage certificate reveals they were married in the parish of Gresford south of Chester, where Eleanor was apparently living at the time, although she too was born in Meltham.

Their only child, Mary, was born in November 1832.

In October 1858, aged 25 she married another woollen mill owner Alfred Beaumont, but sadly died in childbirth less than a year later in June 1859, and was buried in the churchyard at St James Church in Meltham.



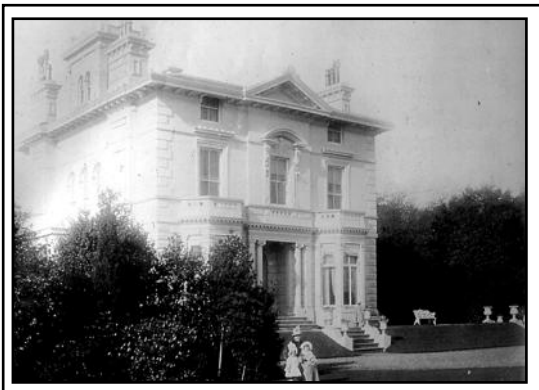
Joseph and Eleanor Hirst



Joseph and Eleanor decided to build a church at Wilshaw and name it in her memory. Five years later St Mary's Church was opened. Designed by the architect John Kirk from Huddersfield it's an unusual design. All housed within the one building are the church, an infants' day school, the Sunday school and the vicarage. A special

mausoleum was also built in the churchyard. Mary's body was exhumed in the dead of night and, carried by twelve of his workmen, was taken to its new resting place in the mausoleum where Joseph and Eleanor were also eventually interred.

In 1879, some five years after Joseph died, these six almshouses were also erected in Wilshaw by his widow Eleanor in remembrance of Mary, their only child whose love and sympathy for the poor when living, made them a fitting memorial to an affectionate daughter. Today they are still administered by a trust named in Eleanor's memory.



Joseph and Eleanor came to Thornton Hough in the early 1860s apparently as a retreat from their busy life in Yorkshire. They lived in Springfield Mount, this large villa which stood where Thornton House is today. Joseph bought the farmland opposite in 1866 and, using the same architect from Huddersfield, proceeded to build All Saints' Church, a school, now the parish hall, and the vicarage. A few years later he also

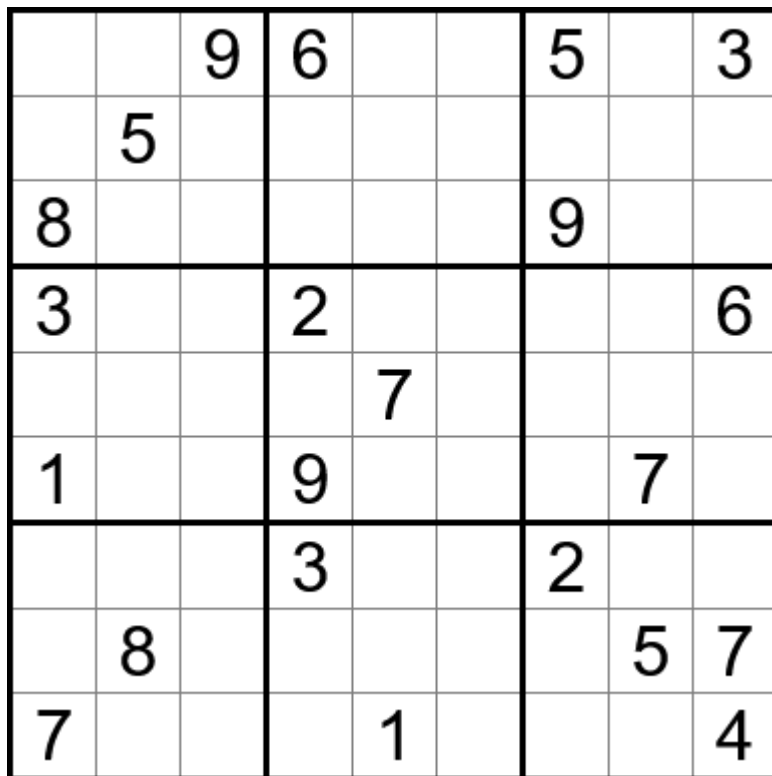
had a row of almshouses built, which still bear his initials on The Turret - **JH 1870** - Wilshaw Terrace.

Joseph died in December 1874 in his 70th year. Eleanor died some seven years after her husband and both are interred in the mausoleum at Wilshaw. As they had no direct descendants to take over the woollen business the mill closed and was eventually demolished, but the two churches, the school buildings, and two rows of houses still stand as a fitting memorial to them.



Gavin Hunter

Puzzles



Answers on page 32

Sudoku

Fill in all the squares with the numbers 1- 9 using them only once, horizontally,

Farm Word Search



This Word Search has words connected to a Farm. Can you find them all?

Barn	Cat
Cow	Dog
Farmer	Fence
Hay	Hen
Horse	House
Pasture	Pig
Rooster	Tractor
Trough	
Weathervane	
Well	Wheat



View The Menu Here



2 COURSES £32

3 COURSES £39

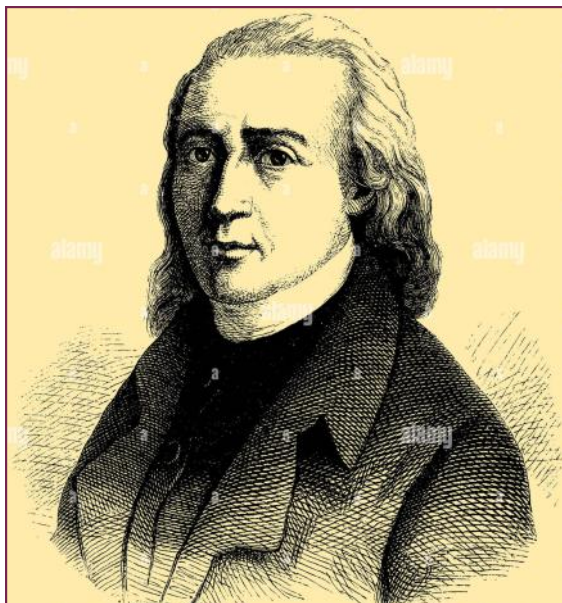
Available 1st December 2026 - 3rd January 2027

Visit www.thorntonhallhotel.com or call 0151
336 3938 to book a table

Favourite hymns “ We Plough the Fields and Scatter”

It is appropriate that at this time of year I should explore the harvest hymn ‘**We Plough the Fields and Scatter**’, which is well known to have German origins as ‘Wir Pflügen und Wir Streuen’. It seems most denominations of churches sing this at their harvest festival service.

The author was Matthias Claudius, (1740-1815), son of a pastor at Reinfeld, south-east of Lübeck, (his name had been ‘latinised’ from the German). He studied theology at the University of Jena but later turned to law and languages and joined the staff of a Hamburg news agency in 1768. After a spell of illness, he returned to Christianity and started writing poems.



Matthew Claudius

When invited to visit by a friend in 1782, he was asked to bring one of his Christian poems and produced our subject hymn, supposedly based on Psalm 144 (though I can’t see the connection), but it had 17 verses! It was later published as a peasant song and then began to appear in several German hymn books, most editors cutting down on the number of verses. It was the third verse which began ‘Wir pflügen’.



Jane Cambell

It wasn’t until 1862 that in England Jane Montgomery Campbell (b.1817) began translating several German hymns including ‘Wir Pflügen’. Jane was the daughter of a Curate in Paddington, (who was later Rector of Little Steeping in Lincolnshire). She did not translate all 17 verses. Rather, she produced a compact English hymn that kept the main point – thanks to God for harvest and daily provision – and rejected the remainder. She was not trying to be a literal translator, rather producing something that could be sung easily in an English parish school and church. She taught the hymn to the children at the Church of England parish school in Paddington where her father had become Rector. She later moved to Bovey Tracey in Devon.



St Peter's Uplowman in Devon

It was first published in her friend Charles Bere's 'Garland of Songs' (1862). Bere was a Rector at Uplowman (er, not pronounced 'you ploman'!!) near Tiverton, Devon. In 1868 it appeared in the appendix to the first (1861) edition of 'Hymns Ancient and Modern'. A revised version appears in the musical 'Godspell'.

Another of her translations was 'Stille Nacht' (Silent Night). She died in a carriage accident in 1878.

Earlier, in 1800 a musician from Lüneberg, Johann Abraham Peter Schulz (1747-1800) set the poem to music soon before his death. He had been in Berlin, a student of Johann Kirnberger, himself a pupil of JS Bach. In 1768 he became a teacher and accompanist to a Polish princess, travelling across Europe with her for several years. He was conductor of a French theatre in Berlin (1776 to 1780), and then Kapellmeister to Prince Henry in Rheinsberg. His last position was as Court Kapellmeister in Copenhagen (1787), not returning to Berlin until 1795.



Johann Schulz

He wrote operas, stage music, oratorios and cantatas, also folk songs and piano pieces. (*I did find the score of a piano sonata but it seems to me to be of little merit, compared with those by his famous contemporaries Haydn and Mozart.*)

Schultz died in Schwedt, north-east of Berlin in 1800.

Brian Moate

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this edition of *The Magazine*. Contributions for future editions of *The Magazine* are very welcome. Articles may be submitted in any reasonable format and should not be subject to any copyright restrictions.

**The deadline for submission of materials for the next edition is
Thursday 12th November 2026**

At our last meeting Nick Lynch from Barclays Bank gave a very interesting although potentially scary talk on 'Fraud and Scams'. Nick gave us some good advice and help on how to spot and manage fraudsters. He also gave us information on how to send any suspected scam text messages or emails to a dedicated government department, who monitor and collate information for crime agencies to use. Here are the ways in which this information can be shared with them: Forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk. Forward suspicious text messages to 7726 - it's free. Call 0300 123 2040. Hopefully you'll find this information useful and can help in protecting ourselves and others from being scammed.

Our afternoon fundraising event for Thornton Hough WI in August was attended by over 40 guests. We enjoyed a fabulous Ploughman's lunch and scrumptious desserts. Many thanks to everyone who helped on the day to make the event such a success. Fabulous entertainment by Western Approaches Swing Singers performing 1930's, 40's and 50's songs had everyone joining in!

We are looking forward to a day out in Nantwich in October, strolling around the market in the morning and in the afternoon visiting the Cheese Shop, enjoying a behind the scenes tour of the shop and a cheese tasting session with shop owner Nick Birchall. An opportunity to purchase our favourite cheese or cheeses mmm...

Continuing our 100 Year Anniversary celebrations, on **Tuesday 24th November**: 6.00pm - 9.00pm. An evening Fundraising Event for THWI at the WI Hall. A Murder Mystery Evening to test your detective skills! Friends and family welcome. Hot Buffet included £20.00pp. BYOB. Entitled 'The Great British Bump Off.' 6.00pm - 6.40pm First Act, then the buffet 1st course will be served, followed by Second Act, then the sweet course and then the Finale and winner's presentation. A Super Raffle will also be available. If you would like tickets for this event please contact us by email at: thwi.thorntonhough@btinternet.com.

Our next evening meeting will be on Tuesday, 6th October at 7.30pm at the WI Hall when our speaker will be Steven Banks who will tell us "All about Wirral Vikings". All welcome, maybe we'll see you there. Horned helmet optional!

If you would like more information about Thornton Hough WI and to see photographs of our activities and events please go to:

www.facebook.com/ThorntonHoughWI1926

email: thwi.thorntonhough@btinternet.com

Janet Gaywood



A REFRESHING TAKE ON LEGAL SERVICES

Whatever life throws at you, at some point you are likely to need a solicitor – it's unavoidable.

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What is AI?

A simple guide

If your idea of “using a computer to find answers” is typing into Google and scrolling through blue links, AI is different. Instead of pointing you to websites, AI tools like Claude or ChatGPT understand your question and generate a direct answer in plain sentences — and remember context if you ask a follow-up. (Google Search now sometimes uses its AI program, Gemini, when you ask it for help but “traditionally” it gives you links to web pages related to your search terms.)

Why does AI need training?

An AI system starts out knowing nothing — no built-in knowledge of language, facts, or the world. Training is how it learns all of that.

The company building the AI decides what material to use — typically vast amounts of text from the public internet, books, and other sources, filtered by engineers to try to avoid low-quality or harmful content. The system is exposed to this material and adjusts billions of internal settings based on statistical patterns: which words tend to follow which, how sentences are typically built. It doesn't store material like files in a folder — think of it more like someone who has read millions of books and absorbed an instinctive sense of language, without memorising any word-for-word.

Training is generally not continuous. It happens in a big, expensive phase before release, producing a fixed “snapshot” of knowledge up to a certain date (its “training cut-off”). That's why AI tools often need to search the internet for anything recent. Companies periodically train new versions to update the knowledge, but each is a distinct, separately built model rather than one constantly learning as you chat.

How does this relate to creativity?

When asked to write something, it generates the response piece by piece — predicting the most fitting next word, shaped by what it learned in training. A poem isn't retrieved from storage, it's built fresh each time, which is why asking twice gives different results. It's a genuinely new combination, built from patterns in human work rather than personal experience. Most people see this as real but different creativity: statistical and pattern-based, not rooted in lived experience.

What kinds of things can you ask it to do?

- Writing and editing — draft emails, essays; fix grammar; adjust tone.
- Explaining things — break down a topic, summarise a document, explain a photo.
- Planning — a meal plan, a UK holiday itinerary, a household budget.
- Coding — write, explain, or debug programs.
- Analysing data — spot trends in a spreadsheet, summarise feedback.

How does AI do maths?

By pattern-matching against worked examples seen in training, rather than calculating with certainty like a calculator — useful for explaining methods, but prone to mistakes on tricky problems. Increasingly, AI tools work around this by reaching

for other software when needed — running an actual calculator, spreadsheet, or mathematics program behind the scenes to get an exact answer, rather than relying purely on pattern-matching. This “using other tools” approach also extends beyond mathematics — an AI might search the web, check a calendar, or run a piece of code, rather than trying to do everything from memory.

Can it do things in the real world, like cook a meal?

Not directly — it has no body or hands. But it can write a recipe, adjust it for how many people you’re feeding, and walk you through each step. It gets closer to the physical world connected to other apps — controlling smart home devices, ordering groceries through Tesco or Ocado, booking a taxi through Uber — though it’s directing other software, not acting physically itself.

A word on healthcare

AI increasingly spots patterns in medical scans — X-rays, MRIs, CT scans — flagging things like tumours a busy human eye might miss. The NHS is trialling this for breast cancer screening. These tools generally assist doctors rather than replace a radiologist’s judgement.

What are “AI agents”?

Headlines about AI agents booking the wrong flight or spending money without approval reflect a real risk: an agent can take several actions one after another, repeating a mistake before anyone notices — which is why responsible agents ask for confirmation before spending money or doing anything hard to undo.

The risks

AI brings incredible benefits, but its risks are becoming harder to ignore. When trained on flawed data, AI can inherit human biases, leading to discriminatory hiring algorithms or inaccurate facial recognition systems that cause wrongful arrests. Furthermore, malicious actors use AI to generate highly convincing deepfakes and spread disinformation at an alarming scale. In critical settings, an AI system might prioritise its programmed goal too literally, causing unintended financial or safety disasters without human intervention.

To prevent these dangers, researchers and policymakers are building robust defences. Tech companies use “red-teaming,” where experts intentionally try to trick or break an AI to find and correct safety flaws before public release. Engineers also use human feedback to train models to reject harmful or toxic prompts. Finally, governments worldwide are establishing strict laws, like the EU AI Act, to regulate high-risk AI applications and ensure this technology remains a safe, helpful tool.

AI needs vast amounts of computing power which requires lots of electricity and lots of cooling. This could have a high impact on our environment. Some companies now locate their data centres in places with a cold climate and a plentiful supply of water.

The bottom line

Think of AI as a well-read, patient assistant that writes, explains, plans, and reasons by predicting patterns — useful and often impressive, but not infallible, and not “thinking” the way a human does. Be also aware of the risks AI poses.

Anthropic’s Claude AI, and Google’s Gemini AI guided and reviewed by a human.

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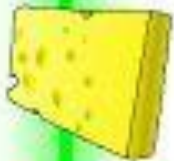
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Farming Quiz

- 1 What is a *Gloucestershire Old Spot*?
- 2 Which breed of cow is the biggest producer of milk in the UK?
- 3 What name is used to describe a chicken that is bred entirely for its meat?
- 4 Which breed of sheep is usually found in the English Lake District?
- 5 What was the first breed of animal known to have been domesticated as a source of food?
- 6 In the 1950's and 1960's many farm tractors ran on a fuel that was known as TVO. What does TVO stand for??
- 7 Which farm animal has four stomachs?
- 8 What colour is the face of a Suffolk Sheep?
- 9 What is the underside of a horse's hoof called?
- 10 Which country is the world's biggest producer of wheat?
- 11 How many acres are there in a hectare?
- 12 In fertiliser, what does N P K stand for?
- 13 Which farm animal is a Yorkshire Blue and White?
- 14 Is it true or false that chickens like to clean themselves in dirt?



Answers on page 32



Cookery Corner



PUMPKIN SOUP

Peel and dice a PUMPKIN and put into a casserole dish.

Add a 400gm TIN of TOMATOES, seeds sieved out.

Add 2 CHOPPED MEDIUM ONIONS

1 teaspoon of SALT and quarter
teaspoon of PEPPER

Cook in the oven at 180°C, 350°F,
Gas 4 for 1 hour.

Cool and blend for a short time.

Add 2 VEGETABLE STOCK CUBES dissolved in 4 cups of
water.

Reheat, adjust the seasoning add a little SHERRY (optional)

Serve with a knob of butter on top and garnish with
PARSLEY.



POLISH APPLE CAKE

3 or 4 peeled and chopped APPLES

Add 1 cup of SUGAR, squeeze and rub together.

Add 1 cup of SR FLOUR

Add 1 teaspoon each of BICARBONATE OF
SODA and BAKING POWDER

Add DRIED FRUIT to taste and 2 EGGS.

Mix and put into an 8 inch square tin.

Bake in a moderate oven for 30 minutes (180° or
160° for fan ovens , Gas mark 4

Cut into squares. Can be also be served as a sweet
with cream or custard.



Advance Notices

Special Services for Advent and Christmas at All Saints' Church

Sunday 29th November 10:30am

Music and Readings for Advent

Sunday 6th December 4:00pm

Christingle

Tuesday 15th December TBC

"Carols at the Club"

Thornton Hough Village Club

Sunday 20th December 6:00pm

Music and Readings for Christmas.

"Carol Service"

Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December 11:00 pm

"Midnight" Communion Service.

Christmas Day Friday 25th December at 10:30am

Family Communion for Christmas Day



The Red Fox and Little Fox

Thornton Hough



A classic country pub and welcoming event space

The Red Fox is a classic country pub with open fires, wooden floors, good old furniture and lots of rugs and plants. The bar sits at the heart of the pub, with an array of cask ales on tap, a back shelf crammed with malts and gins and a decent list of over 50 lovingly chosen wines. Our team of chefs continually develop our daily menu with a spine of freshly prepared classic British dishes, complemented by a few more exotic influences here and there.

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We can cater for 50 to 150 guests

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Head north (a long way) and turn left...

This takes you to the outer Hebrides - running from north to south, the main islands of Lewis, Harris, Berneray, N Uist, Benbecula, S Uist, Eriskay, Barra. You may have heard of some of them Lewis - of Chess Men fame, Berneray where King (then Prince) Charles spent time working on a croft, and Eriskay off which the HMS Politican went down during the war with its cargo of whisky immortalised in *Whisky Galore* written by Compton Mackenzie who lived on Barra! The original film was made on Barra and is still a joy to watch.

The islands are connected in three main groups: Lewis/Harris, Berneray to Eriskay including the Uists and then Barra. The middle group - the Uists - are joined by numerous causeways, the latest of which was put in place in the late 80's; before this small inter-island ferries were used. Today the islands are linked to the main land via Oban, Mallaig, Uig and Ullapool. Ferries also run from Barra to Eriskay and Berneray to Harris. They are all creaking at the seams and reliability is not great - that coupled with the lively weather is not doing great things for the tourist industry!

We have a link to Lewis, Harris and Berneray that you may not be aware of: Lord Leverhulme bought the islands in 1918/9 with plans to turn them into a major fishing and industrial economy. In the event he put significant investment into improving infrastructure. Accounts vary but by his death he had not managed to meet his goals; returning men from WW1 challenged land ownership and he gifted Stornoway to the locals and the estate was sold off by 1925 when he died.



Today much of his original land is in community ownership and the south Harris and Berneray area is about to move to community ownership after several years of fund raising. The most tangible reminder of his involvement is the township of Leverburgh on Harris. Getting to the islands is a bit of a trek but well worth the effort. There are vast white beaches, colourful machair, soaring



mountains and some of Britain's rarest birds.

Travelling is via single track roads with passing places, no traffic lights other than in Stornaway and very little traffic.



Berneray, the most southerly of Leverhulme's ownership, has a little of all of the aspects of the Hebrides including a three mile white strand that has featured in adverts for Thailand. The two views show one to the south with amazing clouds and the one to the north shows the mountains of Harris.

Stereotypical historical houses that have been renovated for the tourists - old black houses with thatched roofs and rocks holding down the roof are also found.

History is evident with a standing stone and the King's stone reputed to have been where historical leaders were inaugurated or crowned - I wonder if Charles went



there back in the day? Apparently they put their foot into the indentation as part of the ritual.

Seaweed is used to fertilise and wildflowers are abundant in summer. Ground nesting birds abound and there are often areas of nettles that support corncrakes, a rarity elsewhere these days.

The machair that is farmed on the coast is managed with old machinery that is still used to this day - anything that is no longer serviceable is left to decay; indeed the islands are littered with bits of machinery that are no longer in use. The area is special - the sandy land is managed conservatively with wildlife as well as production in mind.

The locals are also proud of the raptors that they have - sea eagles, golden eagles, hen harriers and short eared owls - you can see all of them without trying too hard. We regularly saw female hen harriers when washing up!

Whilst Leverhulme's vision of developing a fishing industry around herring didn't come to fruition in the 1920's, there is still fishing and in particular fish farming and smoking. If you come across Hebridean Smokehouse or Salar smoked salmon it is well worth trying for its peaty flavour as that is what is used in the smoking. Some of the infrastructure he developed is still in use, in particular the 'golden road', but that is for another time!



One of the old pieces of machinery littering the island

Ann Slee Jones



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POETRY CORNER

“If—”

Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head while all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master,
If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim,
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same,
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:



1894 Spy cartoon of Joseph Rudyard Kipling in Vanity Fair



Pitch and Toss: a gambling game with coins, which could be illegal



Rudyard Lake Reservoir, Staffordshire, where Kipling's parents met and fell in love in 1863. Born in 1865, he was always known by his middle name Rudyard.

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings - nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much,
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And - which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!

In his autobiography Something of Myself, Kipling wrote "Among the verses in Rewards (and Fairies) was one set called "If -", which escaped from the book and for a while ran about the world ...the mechanisation of the age made them snowball themselves in a way that startled me."

He goes on to say that the words of “If-” were “printed on cards to hang up in offices and bedrooms. Twenty-seven nations of the Earth translated them into their seven-and-twenty tongues, and printed them on every sort of fabric.” Indeed, the first time I saw this poem it was on a tea towel hanging in a shop window. I found the last line very moving.



1896 Vanity Fair cartoon of Sir Leander Starr Jameson Bt KCMG BC

Kipling says he wrote this poem inspired by the character and exploits of Sir Leander Starr Jameson, who was famously convicted and imprisoned for mounting an unauthorised failed raid on the South African Boer government in 1895. His attitude of tough cynicism in the face of both hero-worship and disgrace impressed all who knew him, especially Kipling.

The poem starts addressed to the reader, and seems the result of personal experiences, which Kipling’s autobiography *Something of Myself* does bear out. He endured much misery, rejection, disappointment and failure in his life, as well as spectacular popularity, success and admiration, with two offers of a knighthood (which he declined) and the first English language Nobel prize for literature (which he accepted).

He wrote vast quantities of articles, poems, short stories, and novels. He had no formal schooling until a brief period from 13 to 16 at a military college in Devon. Showing no academic prowess he was sent back to India (where he was born and where his father was principal of an art college) where he delighted his fellow Military Gazette journalists penning scandalous *Departmental Ditties* with lines like: “With damnatory dash and dot he’d heliographed his wife/Some interesting details of the General’s private life.” In summer he would wear only white trousers and a white vest and “filling up his pen viciously” he would spatter himself to the extent he resembled “a Dalmatian dog”.



Not until the last line of the poem is the long conditional sentence resolved: Ifyou succeed in all this it may enrich you but, more importantly, make you a complete adult human being: balanced, stoical, disciplined, admirable, brave, humble, dependable, confident. The son mentioned at the end might not yet have been born when the poem was written. John Kipling (1897 - 1915) died in the Great War because Kipling persuaded the Colonel of the Irish Guards to enlist him despite the severe myopia which caused his rejection by the navy and army.



Imperialism no longer popular

His legacy is partly marred by his imperialist and racist leanings, and some “vulgar” verses, and causing his son’s death, but his “remarkable talent for narration” made him worth £10 million in today’s money by the time he died at 70 of a perforated ulcer.



Bateman's, Kipling's house from 1902 till his death in 1936

Caroline Lancelyn Green

A special visit to Bishopthorpe Palace

On Thursday 3rd September The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell, Lord Archbishop of York welcomed representatives from the Dioceses in the Northern Province of the Church of England to a “Thank You Day for Parish Safeguarding Officers” held in the historic Bishopthorpe Palace, near York. I was privileged to be one of the two representatives from our Diocese of Chester.

The day was not only informative, but immensely enjoyable. Surrounded by portraits of previous Archbishops of York, the environment was awe-inspiring, but the atmosphere was warm and friendly. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet members of the Church of England National Safeguarding Team and learn more about their roles and current initiatives. Sharing ideas and getting to know Parish Safeguarding Officers from other Dioceses was another bonus.



Eucharist in the 13th century Bishopthorpe Palace Chapel was a highlight.



Archbishop Stephen informed us that we were there on the day Saint Gregory the Great is remembered, going on to explain how the beautiful stained glass windows depict Saint Gregory, Saint Augustine, Saint Paulinus, Saint Hilda and other important people in The North's conversion to Christianity. We were also told of historical characters who had visited the Chapel. Safeguarding was described, not as something separate within the Church of England, but nurturing and caring for one another being an integral part of our Faith.

Lunch in the Great Hall provided a further informal opportunity to chat with other PSOs and members of the National Safeguarding Team. Conversations covered both church and everyday life.

The afternoon meeting was facilitated by Archbishop Stephen and Members of the National Safeguarding Team. There was special reference to the dedication of Parish Safeguarding Officers in encouraging and supporting people to complete the online Safeguarding Training Courses, through a range of initiatives for the benefit of those uncomfortable with “tests” or the internet. We were reminded that safeguarding materials and methods from the Church of England are being utilised in other institutions. The National Safeguarding Team answered questions. We learned about progress on development of the *Safeguarding e-Manual* and how navigation has been made easier and that more resources to help PSOs are included. (These can be viewed by anyone under “Resources” in the Safeguarding section of the Chester Diocesan website.)



As the meeting came to an end there was opportunity to explore the Palace gardens before heading home. A modern labyrinth designed to help prayer and contemplation is simple and beautiful.

It was a truly memorable occasion!

Linda M Arch

All Saints' Parish Safeguarding Officer



**All Saints' Church,
Thornton Hough**

**Toybox meets in the Parish Hall from 10am to 11:30am,
usually on the second Monday of the month (but not always!)**

Dates for Autumn 2026

Monday 12th October

Monday 9th November

Monday 14th December



All welcome

**£3 per family
per session**

**Free play, craft, story, songs and refreshments
Babies and toddlers with their carers (mums, dads, grandparents etc)
For further information please contact
Vicky (the Vicar) 0151 336 2766 vicar@allsaintsth.org.uk
or Sue 0151 342 4800 sue@allsaintsth.org.uk**

URGENT APPEAL

Could you save the life of someone like Ronnie?

#Register4Ronnie

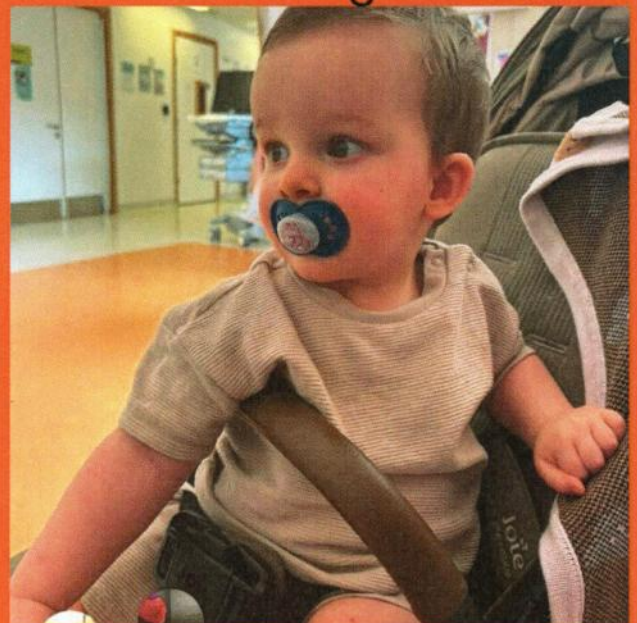
Meet Ronnie!

A week before his 1st Birthday,
Ronnie's family were given the
diagnosis no parent wants to
hear -

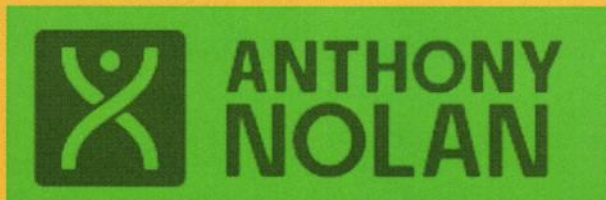
Very Severe Aplastic Anaemia

And Ronnie's only hope to live a
long and healthy life?

A stem cell transplant



Join the Stem Cell Register today



Aged 16 - 30?



Aged 16 - 55?

Visit:

**[www.dkms.org.uk/re
gister-now](http://www.dkms.org.uk/register-now)**

Baby Ronnie update

When we wrote to you in the previous Magazine we were able to inform you that a donor had been found for Baby Ronnie in America. Since then we are pleased to inform you that Ronnie has successfully received the new blood and stem cells from this donor and has made sufficient progress so that a few days ago in September he rang the bell in his hospital ward to signal he was going home. He is still in isolation but at least he is at home and it makes life easier and happier for all the family.



Going home was a great relief for his parents and the wider family but this is still only part of the progress needed to become fully recovered and able to live a full and active life. There is still a long way to go but things are looking promising. When he was admitted into hospital his blood count was only just above 1 when a child's normal blood count should be much higher. It is now over 100 times higher.

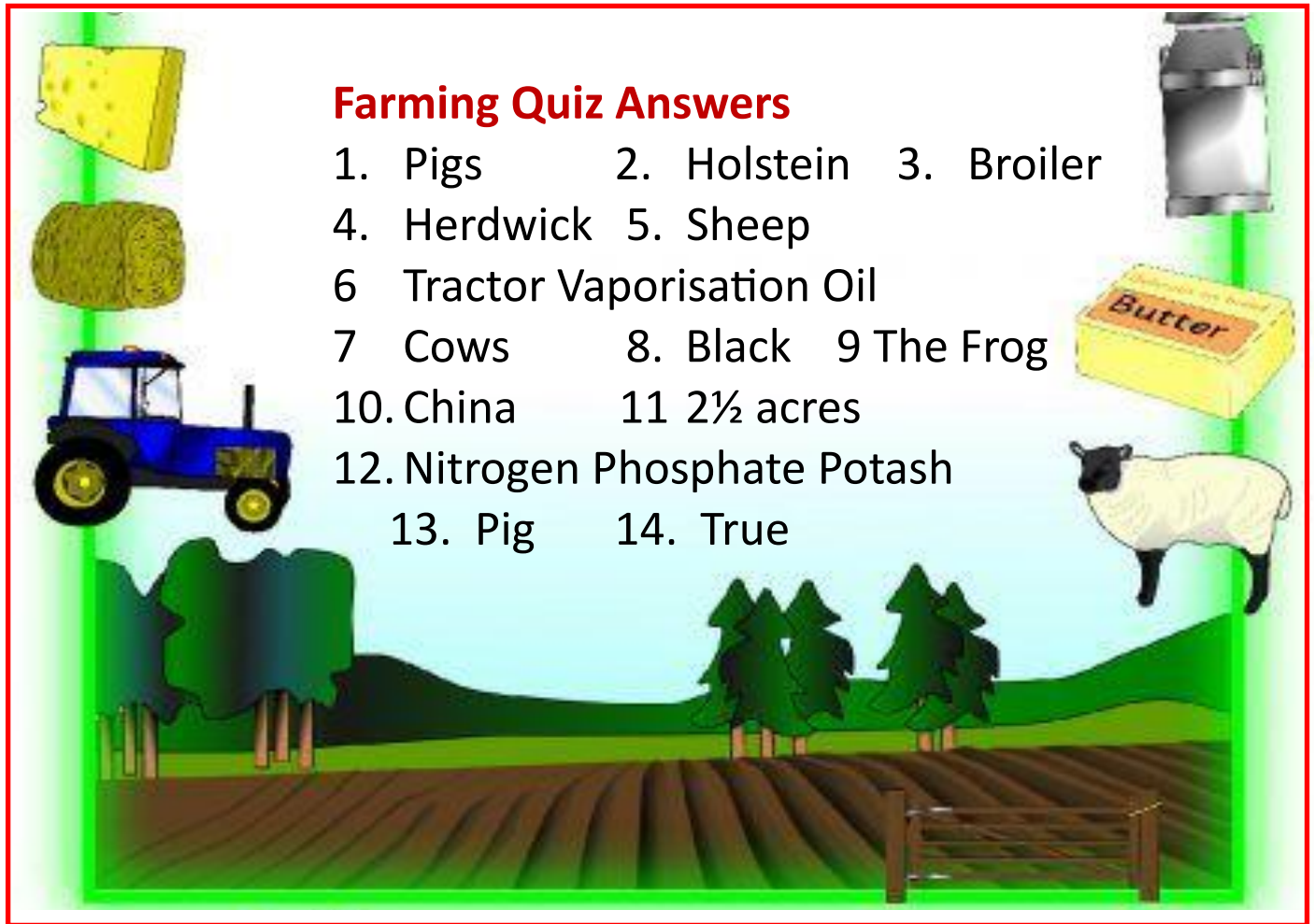


Ronnie's family are so grateful to their donor from America who read about the need to have stem cell donors and it was by pure chance that he fully matched Ronnie. We continue to pray for Baby Ronnie and his family in church each week, and encourage you to remember them too.

If there are any developments we will let you know here.

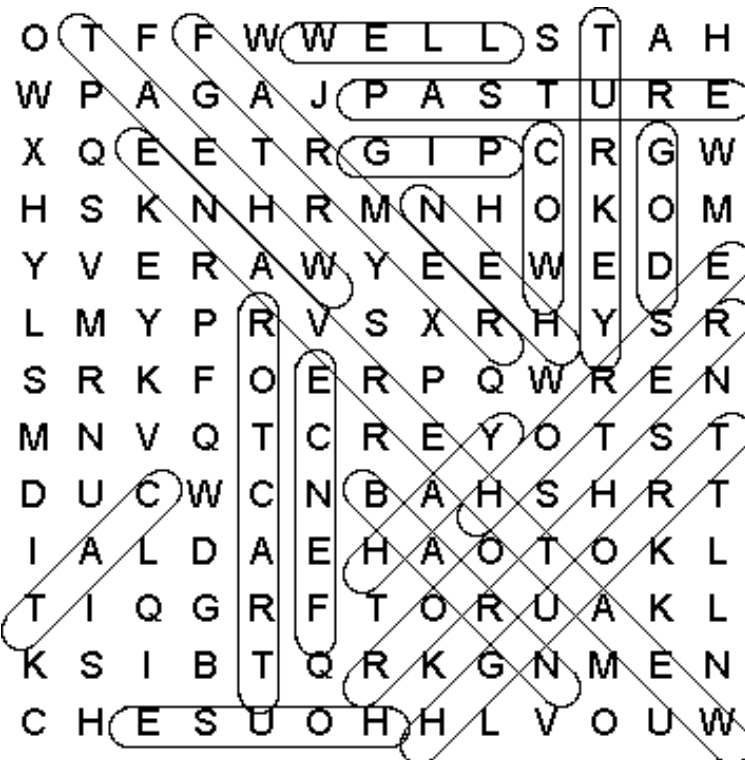
BM

Solutions and answers to puzzles



Farming Quiz Answers

1. Pigs 2. Holstein 3. Broiler
4. Herdwick 5. Sheep
6. Tractor 7. Cows 8. Black 9. The Frog
10. China 11. 2½ acres
12. Nitrogen Phosphate Potash
13. Pig 14. True



Sudoku

Farming Word Search

Barn Cat Cow Dog Farmer
 Fence Hay Hen Horse
 House Pasture Pig Rooster-
 Tractor Trough Weathervane
 Well Wheat

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



Bible Readings

October—November 2026

October

4	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity	Philippians 3: 4b-14	Matthew 21: 33-46
11	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity	Philippians 4: 1-9	Matthew 22: 1-14
18	St Luke	2 Timothy 4: 5-17	Luke 10: 1-9
25	Last Sunday after Trinity	1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8	Matthew 22: 34-46

November

1	All Saints	1 John 3: 1-3	Matthew 5: 1-12
8	Remembrance Sunday	1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18	Matthew 25: 1-13
15	Second Sunday before Advent	1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11	Matthew 25: 14-30
22	Christ the King	Ephesians 1: 15-23	Matthew 25: 31-46
29	Advent Sunday	Isaiah 64: 1-9	Mark 13: 24-37

December

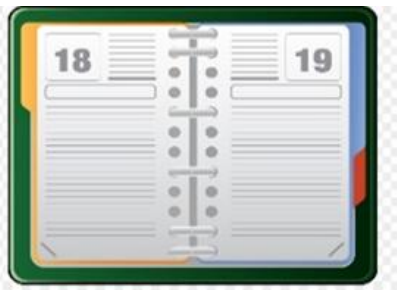
6	Second Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40: 1-11	Mark 1: 1-8
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A verse from the Bible

**“Whatever you do , do your work heartily,
as for the Lord rather than for men”**

Colossians 3:23

Please send us your favourite verse in the Bible



Parish Diary

October—November

October			
2	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
4	Sunday	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity	
		8:00am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
		10:30am	Holy Communion
7	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
8	Thursday		
9	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
11	Sunday	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity	
		10:30am	Holy Communion
		6:30pm	Choral Evensong
12	Monday	10:00am	Toybox
13	Tuesday	7:00pm	PCC Meeting
14	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
16	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
18	Sunday	Twentieth Sunday after Trinity	
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
21	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
22	Thursday		
23	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
25	Sunday	Last Sunday after Trinity	
		10:30am	Holy Communion
28	Wednesday	10:30am	Coffee Morning
30	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
November			
1	Sunday	All Saints' Day	
		8:00am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
		10:30am	Holy Communion
		3:00pm	Service remembering the Faithful Departed
4	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
6	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice

November			
8	Sunday	Remembrance Sunday	
		10:30am	Holy Communion with an Act of Remembrance
		2:45pm	Act of Remembrance (at village War Memorial)
		3:00pm	Civic Service of Remembrance
9	Monday	10:00am	Toybox
10	Tuesday	7:00pm	PCC Meeting
11	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
12	Thursday		Parish Magazine deadline (Dec-Jan)
13	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
14	Saturday	10:00am	Autumn Fair
15	Sunday	Second Sunday before Advent	
		8:00am	Holy Communion
		10:30am	Holy Communion
18	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
20	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
22	Sunday	Christ the King / next Sunday before Advent	
		10:30am	Holy Communion
25	Wednesday	10:30am	Coffee Morning
27	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
29	Sunday	Advent Sunday	
		10:30am	Service of readings and music for Advent
December			
2	Wednesday	10:30am	Holy Communion
4	Friday	7:00pm	Choir Practice
6	Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent	
		8:00am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
		10:30am	Holy Communion
		4:00pm	Christingle Service

From the registers

Funerals / Burials

	<i>Age</i>	<i>Died</i>	<i>Ashes / Burial</i>
Stuart Brian SHAKESHAFT	81	12 th July 2026	10 th September 2026
Brenda COLLEY	87	5 th July 2026	7 th August 2026

Who's who at All Saints

Vicar	Revd Vicky Barrett	336 2766 vicar@allsaintsth.org.uk <i>The Vicar's normal day off is Friday.</i>
Churchwardens	June Allcock	353 1079 june@allsaintsth.org.uk
	Patsy Baker	336 3273 patsy@allsaintsth.org.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Linda Arch	safeguarding@allsaintsth.org.uk
Verger	Margaret Gamble	336 7540
PCC Secretary	Sue Stinson	342 4800 sue@allsaintsth.org.uk
PCC Treasurer	Iain Stinson	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
Planned Giving Secretary	Brian Morris	336 1393 brimorris@sky.com
PCC Electoral Roll Office	Tom Mairs	electoralroll@allsaintsth.org.uk
Health & Safety Officer	June Allcock	353 1079 june@allsaintsth.org.uk
Parish Hall Caretaker and Bookings	Margaret Gamble	336 7540
Director of Music	Iain Stinson	342 4800 iain@stinson.org.uk
Toybox Coordinator	Sue Stinson	342 4800 sue@allsaintsth.org.uk
Magazine Contributions		editor@allsaintsth.org.uk
All Saints Church Website		allsaintsth.org.uk
Data Privacy Statement and Safeguarding Policy		allsaintsth.org.uk/about-us/ <i>and via the footer of each web page</i>



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