**NEWSLETTER NUMBER 283**

Here we are in yet another heatwave, so I hope you are all keeping cool and drinking lots of water. Australia uses the mantra Slip, Slap Slop i.e. slip on a top, slap on a hat and slop on the suncream.

If you are new to the area or are on holiday and worshipping with us today, then welcome. We would love to meet you so please stay on for coffee and biscuits after the service. If you have just moved here, let me know and we can send you the latest weekly newsletter by email. Just let me have your email address.

**OUR SERVICE ON SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST 2025 – 9TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

The service on this day will be a **Sung Eucharist** starting at **11.15 a.m.** The celebrant will be

**Rev David Burton.** There will be refreshments served after the service so please stay and chat if possible.

**LOOKING FORWARDS - REV ANDY**

What are you looking forward to? A bit of peace and quiet perhaps, so you can get on with what needs doing or perhaps a bit of excitement, because things have become a bit samey recently? Whatever it is that we wish to see, it’s important that we have our eyes open so we don’t miss it when it arrives. Having our eyes open and looking in the right direction are important. Choosing where to focus our attention in a world full of distraction and competing voices is very important. I wonder what has captured your attention recently? Ask yourself what do find yourself dwelling on, thinking about or captivated by.

Noticing something is one thing, but allowing ourselves to become transfixed by it is another. Rather than allowing the news, which can be depressing and anxiety provoking, to hold us hostage to events beyond our control, it is better to balance the healthy desire for keeping abreast of developments with becoming lost to them.

Our readings this week are quite forthright. Both the ancient prophet Jeremiah and the later writer to the Hebrews speak boldly to us. They call us to have our eyes open to the truth of God’s presence in our lives. They remind us that many have gone before us who have witnessed to this presence. We have no excuse it seems for not paying attention to the divine story that is unfolding around us each day. Then pouring fuel on that wake-up call of a fire is Jesus, with words than can shock. Perhaps that is exactly what was intended? Wake up, open your eyes, pay attention. It is plain to see apparently, but too often it seems that we are blind to it.

Hence the call in this present season to listen to each other and to those with whom we live, work and socialise with. I am encouraging you, every one of you, to join the conversation. What do you see that we need to pay attention to? Where do you perceive that God is at work, or calling us to join in that work? Please speak up and help all of us to become captivated by the potentially quiet, undramatic but nevertheless important strands of the divine story that is unfolding around us. Share your thoughts in whatever way you find easiest, by email, by phone, by letter or online at westtone.org.uk/conversation

Together we can hear God’s voice, see God’s footprints, and follow the right path.

**ROTA FOR SUNDAY 17/8/2025**

**Sidesmen:-** Lorna Grinter and Jacquie Hockaday

**Reader:-** Philippa Deem

**Coffee:-** Lorna Grinter and Jacquie Hockaday

**Flowers:-** AlisonToogood

**READINGS FOR SUNDAY 17/8/2025**

**Collect:-** Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church:

open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit

in love and joy and peace; 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

**Readings:-**

Jeremiah Chapter 23, vv 23 – 29

Hebrews Chapter 11, vv 29 to end and Chapter 12, vv 1 – 2

Luke Chapter 12, vv 49 - 56

**PRAYER LIST**

Cynthia Sansom

Elizabeth Miles

Eunice Durrance

Ian Sansom

Mike Toogood

Pam Wilkie

Paul

Stephen Daley

Susan Dobson

**YEARS MIND FOR AUGUST**

21ST Donald Thomas (Tom) Tucker\*\*\*

24th Basil William Chaplin

24th Dudley Nathan Sanders

\*\*\* If you are related to Tom could you please speak to me after the service.

**BIRTHDAY LIST**

I do not know of any birthdays this week.

**OUTREACH GROUPS**

**Recycled Teenagers**

The next meeting, which will take place at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 28th August 2025. There will be the normal chat as well as a superb tea of sandwiches and cakes to demolish.

**Knit, Sew and Natter**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 4th September 2025 starting at 2.00 p.m. It will be the usual meeting with lots of chat and refreshments.

**Soup ‘n’ a Bite**

The next meeting of this group will be on Saturday, 13th September 2025 at 12.00 noon. The group usually offers a choice of soups, a variety of bread and/or rolls, various cheeses, fresh fruit. tea or coffee. There is also a free raffle.

**OUR NEXT SERVICE**

This will be a **Sung Eucharist** starting at **11.15 a.m.** on **Sunday 24th August 2025.** The celebrant will be the vicar **Rev Andy Barton.** Refreshments will be served afterwards.

TAKE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING WEEK IS A 5TH SUNDAY SO THERE WILL NOT BE A SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS’ BUT THERE WILL BE A UNITED SERVICE AT GREENHAM AT 9.30 A.M.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

The next event will be a **Treasure Hunt with tea and cake** starting at **3.00 p.m.** on **Sunday, 24/8/2025.** There will be two treasure hunts on offer. Route 1 will be a walking treasure hunt and Route 2 will be a car treasure hunt. If you can help by making a cake or serving tea please let me know.

**FUND RAISING COMMITTEE EVENTS EVEN FURTHER AHEAD**

The exact dates for these events will be finalised shortly.

**September on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon**

Talk on the building of All Saints’ Church followed by tea and cakes

**October**

Cocktails and Mocktails with the same format as last time.

**November**

**Quiz night with jacket potato and filling supper.**

Same format as before with teams of up to 6 people, bring your own drinks. Start eating fish now to get the brain in tiptop condition. Supply your own drinks.

**December**

**Christmas tree festival**

This will be a two-day event with the trees staying up until the school has had its two Christmas services in the church.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Rev Andrew Norris writes:-**

The “Home Service” is a weekly programme which brings Christian worship into your front room which is broadcast on 105.3 FM on Wednesdays at 11.00am and repeated Sunday at 10.00 am.  It is also available via the internet at any time on [www.10radio.org](http://www.10radio.org) . This week:

*Dan Bedford, pastor at The Well Christian centre in Rockwell Green, has prepared a time of worship and reflection on the story of God's revelation to the world and His people throughout the history of mankind.  We are also joined by Claire Nelson who co-ordinates youth work at St Andrews church, Wiveliscombe. She reflects on her own faith journey as well highlighting some of the exciting initiatives with young people that are happening in Wiveliscombe.*

If you have prayer or song requests or want others to know about what is happening in your church, contact [revandrew@10Radio.org](mailto:revandrew@10Radio.org)

**FUN CORNER**

**Two squirrels talking to each other

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**A man was sitting in a Little Chef café eating the all-day breakfast when three leather-clad bikers turned up in a great skid of dust. As they passed him, one grabbed the sausage, one stuck his finger in the soft-fried egg and the third took his slice of toast. The man quickly finished his meal and left. The bikers ordered their food and when it came spoke to the waiter and said they thought the man was a wimp as he had not complained. The waiter said “That man is not a wimp, but he is the worst lorry driver I have ever known. He has just driven his twenty ton lorry into three bikes that were parked outside, knocked them over and reversed over them! “