**NEWSLETTER NUMBER 289**

Please read Rev Andy’s looking Forwards very carefully as it is relevant to the item on the Benefice Vision Day which comes further on. There is also an invitation to the lunch for you to give to anyone you know who may have some relevant input.

**OUR SERVICE ON SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2025 – 15TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

This will be our **Harvest Festival** and it will be a **Sung Eucharist** starting at **11.15 a.m.** and the celebrant will be the vicar, **Rev Andy Barton.** Following the service, everyone is invited to come to the Lang Room (behind the church) for lunch.

**LOOKING FORWARDS – REV ANDY**

**What does a fruitful day look like for you?**

Each of us will have a different answer to that question, reflecting the different contexts of our lives. Some of us will be students, some in jobs, others retired, and some currently out of work. Of those who work some will be doing so on farms, others at home, others again in buildings far away. For those who work in agriculture, or who are keen gardeners, a fruitful day will come in the form of a harvest. Teachers and parents sow a different kind of seed, and their harvest may be a child’s delighted face of understanding. A businessperson’s investment of diligent work on a spreadsheet could yield wise decisions in a meeting.

 So, what does a fruitful day look like for you? Spend some time with this question and we come to see what harvest means to us on a personal level. We are entering autumn and the harvest season, a time to celebrate and be thankful for all that we have seen grow in our fields, as well as in our lives and our local community more generally.

 The first of our seven Harvest Festival services is this weekend, they are places for grateful reflection on what we have each received. We will be thinking about how we are all invited to partner in the sowing and reaping, bearing fruit for a better version of our world.

 Alongside gratitude for the harvest comes generosity. We have a choice when we receive, to either hoard or to share. It can be tempting to hold on to that which we have harvested, to ensure that we have enough. After all that labour, whether in the fields, the home, or the classroom, we certainly deserve a share of the reward.

 However, at some point we have enough, and the gift can be shared wider. The path to a better version of our world, and our local part of it, is paved with generosity. A mind-set of scarcity leads to an instinct of hoarding whereas a mind-set of gratitude for what we have received, turns our instincts naturally towards giving and sharing.

 This Harvest season we are invited to reflect on all that we can be grateful for, and how we can show this gratitude through being generous with it to other people. If you would like to join that conversation, please come along to the Vision Day being held at Appley Pavilion on 18th October. All are welcome.

**ROTA FOR SUNDAY 28/9/2025**

**Sidesmen:-** RachelYates and Angela Setter

**Reader:-** Stephanie Emery

**Coffee:-** Angela Setter and Rachel Yates

**Flowers:-** Philippa Deem

**READINGS FOR SUNDAY 28/9/2025**

**Collect:-** God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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:-**

Amos Chapter 6, vv 1a and 4 – 7

1st Timothy Chapter 6, vv 6 – 9

Luke Chapter 16, vv 19 – end

**PRAYER LIST**

The Rev Caroline Luff (Rachel Yates’ godmother)

Chris Monckton

Elizabeth Miles

Eunice Durrance

Ian Sansom

Mike Toogood

Pam Wilkie

Paul

Stephen Daley

Susan Dobson

The people of Palestine

The people of Ukraine, Poland and Estonia

Vision day for the West Tone Benefice

Rev Colin Randall (Former Wellington Vicar) celebrating 50 years of ordination

**YEARS MIND FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER**

SEPTEMBER

29th Freda Rowley

OCTOBER

2nd Sidney Gregory

3rd Mary Symons

**BIRTHDAY LIST FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER**

2nd October Ian Grinter

We hope you have an excellent birthday celebration, enjoy your day.

**CHURCH VISION DAY – SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER 10.00 A.M. -3.00 P.M.**

**APPLEY PAVILION, TA21 0HH**

All the churches in the West Tone Benefice are coming together in October to hold a Vision Day. The goal is to listen to God and one another as we look for how to be a relevant and fruitful church for the present time in our communities. Everyone is welcome to come, and everyone will be able to share their views. The venue has been chosen carefully to make the most of the day, and if you would like a lift to get there please just ask. Over the lunch time slot, from 11.45 to 1.30pm, any member of our local community is welcome to join us for a free Community Lunch. Here they will have the chance to share what matters to them in life, and what they value about the community. The material gained from these discussions will help us, the churches, to shape our own priorities in the years ahead as we seek to play our part in the local area. Please make coming to this day a priority. Your opinion matters and will help us hear a wide range of views. Please confirm your place, or share your thoughts beforehand if you cannot come on the day, either by:

- emailing me at revdbarton@gmail.com

- ringing me on 01823 924007

- sending me a letter to 2 White Oaks, Langford Budville, TA21 0RB

- or going online at westtone.org.uk/conversation

**OUTREACH GROUPS**

**Knit, Sew and Natter**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 2nd October 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, 11th October 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.

**Recycled Teenagers**

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

**OUR NEXT SERVICE**

The next service at All Saints’ Church will be a **Sung Eucharist** starting at **11.15 a.m.** on **Sunday, 5th October** **2025.** The celebrant will be **Rev Stephen Bowen.**

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, 5th October 2025**

**History Talk at 3.00 p.m.**

There will be an illustrated talk on the why, who etc that All Saints’ Church came to be built at Rockwell Green. The cost will be £5-00 per person. This will be 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 13th – 14th**

**Christmas tree festival**

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

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**URGENTLY WANTED for The Children’s Society**

The current volunteer would like to give up doing this task having done it for many years. It involves receiving the boxes, emptying them, counting and paying in the money and then returning the boxes to their owners. This only happens once a year. If you feel that you could take this task on, please speak to Sheila Rabson after the service and she will put you in touch with the current post holder.

**From Rev Andrew Norris**

The “Home Service” which is broadcast on 105.3 FM on Wednesdays at 11.00am and repeated Sunday at 10.00 am.  It is also available at any time on [www.10radio.org](http://www.10radio.org) .

This week: *A welcome return to June Best and the team from Bradford-on-Tone who will be leading our act of worship focussing on Jesus reading the scripture scrolls in the synagogue. We also hear the fourth in Hilary Allen's series on aspects of God's love focussing, this week, on "Nurture" and the fruit of the spirit.*

**FUN CORNER**

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