

THURCASTON CROPSTON *PARISH MAGAZINE*

The magazine for your parish since 1951

VOLUME 74

No 09

September 2025



**Cropston Reservoir showing the
cost of the hot summer!**

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Never miss an issue of your monthly Parish Magazine (in-print and online) - 12 issues £10!

Church details, events and services can be found at
www.stmarysandallsaints.co.uk

All Saints Church exists for the benefit of the whole community, not simply those people who come to church on a Sunday!

We are always delighted to arrange baptisms and weddings, or to bring Holy Communion to anyone who is unable to come to church. If we can help in this, or any other way, please contact the Rector or Church Wardens.



Find us on Facebook - [asthurcastonwc](https://www.facebook.com/asthurcastonwc)



Inside this month's magazine...

To start our introduction to this month's magazine can we say congratulations to both sets of bell ringers on their performances during the VJ Day celebrations. Turn to page 5 for the full story.

The ninth month of the year is the start of a busy time for both our parishes. Not only is Ride & Stride raising the profile of churches as well as fund raising, both churches see the resumption of activities that were put on hold

over the holiday period.

The popular Wednesday Hub starts again on 3rd September and All Saints' Saturday Coffee Morning begins on again 13th September to coincide with Ride & Stride.

Just a reminder to get your entries ready for the Thurcaston & Cropston Village Show on September 6th.

Richard, Barbara & Adam

Anstey's open air Food Bank.



During July and part of August, whilst the toilets in St Mary's Church Rooms were being revamped, the Food Bank operated from the car park. Fortunately, we had good weather and even enjoyed the sunshine.

The Food Bank is now back in the hall of

SOAR VALLEY COMMUNITY
FOOD PROJECT



Church Rooms. If you need some help with budgeting or getting enough food, come along and we can help. **We meet every Tuesday from 10.00 to 11.30.** You will

be made most welcome and offered refreshments.

From Marian, Wendy and our wonderful team of volunteers.

Trespassers need a path

I know those who took part in last month's Parish 'Beating the Bounds' found it demanding yet very rewarding getting a different perspective on the physical boundaries of our two parishes. One disappointing and all too common demand for rural rights of way is land occupier neglect of both the signage and a clear footpath. This makes the walk unnecessarily challenging and fearful as walkers tend to be conscientious citizens who do not like being shouted out or threatened as is the hostile notice greeting walkers passing by Anstey's Mill-'trespassers will be shot and survivors shot again'.

Yet it is hard to respect and follow footpaths when they are hidden, overgrown and signs missing. One such example is the edge of the City boundary former glebe land behind Thurcaston's derelict old rectory. Not only are the paths visible on the map invisible in reality, to access one cannot help but wander at will. I felt like a trespasser whilst questioning as Rector - if I were the technical landowner. Not as grandiose as it sounds as the glebe land historically was the asset of the minister and only a few years back when this arable land was being considered for urban development, both All Saints and Beaumont Leys' ministers and their PCC's had to be consulted for the land usage. I am proud to say that both churches robustly opposed the plans. Now I see that on the Anstey Lane approach to Thurcaston the trees that lined the road on the edge of both fields have all been chopped down. Does this herald the development of housing is about to start? Who else benefits from such irreversible destruction? Perhaps



it is conservation losing old trees?? Please do write in if you know.

Most readers will be old enough to know that the old version of the Lord's Prayer used 'trespasses' instead of 'sins' needing God's forgiveness. I like the traditional version, it gives me something tangible for my mind to grasp. We do trespass against one another, either wittingly or unwittingly. And like the confused Rambler, there should be a better path to return to. Standing still, retracing our steps, starting afresh may help us in our relationships with one another and God. Also essential for navigating the neglected and sometimes hostile terrain of our rural fringe. .

Rev Matthew

St Mary's and All Saints' celebrate VJ Day

VJ Celebrations at Anstey with the British Legion Hare & Hounds



On August 15th a two minute silence was observed across the UK commemorating those who fought and died in the Far East.

Many of you will have seen on the BBC the King and Queen and members of the Armed forces together with 33 living veterans attend the royal British Legion's remembrance service held at Staffordshire's National Memorial Arboretum.

In his tribute to VJ Day veterans, whom he said *"shall never be forgotten,"* His Majesty King Charles poignantly reminded us that *"in times of war and in times of peace, the greatest weapons of all are not the arms you bear but the arms you link."*

If you were out on the day watching for the

Red Arrows you would have been disappointed as they flew over Leicestershire an hour earlier than expected but the wonderful compensation was the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight consisting of a Lancaster with an escort of two WW2 fighters flying low over our villages. A truly breathtaking sight!

At All Saints' thirteen ringers began ringing at 6.30 on Friday 15th. In Anstey, St Mary's Church Bells rang from midday on Saturday 16th August marking the end of WW2. As Anne Dutton commented on St Mary's Facebook page, *"The bells sound wonderful. Can't begin to imagine what an amazing day it must have been 80 years ago."*

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

ANNUAL GIFT DAY

Saturday 27th September 2025

During that Saturday Morning we will be at the following locations:

CROPSTON - NEAR THE BRADGATE ARMS
(Opposite CROPSTON CHAPEL)
9.30am until 10.00am

THURCASTON - NEAR THE PILLAR BOX
(junction of Leicester Road & Rectory Lane)
10.00am to 10.30am

THURCASTON – OUTSIDE ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
10.30 to 11.30am

Donations will be used solely for the maintenance of the Church fabric.

If you prefer to give by cheque, please make it payable to Thurcaston with Cropston PCC. If you can Gift Aid your donation please complete and sign the special form enclosed & put it in the envelope with your donation. Alternatively, you may wish to donate electronically using the link below, with a reference Gift Day.



<https://tinyurl.com/allsaintstwc>

All Saints' Church Thurcaston with Cropston Gift Day Saturday 27th September 2025



The hi-light for me of the annual parish Gift Day is meeting people from our villages whom I otherwise may not have met.

I enjoy learning how much positive regard there is for All Saints Church and appreciate that we all approach the value of this medieval treasure differently.

Our historic landmark has played host to centuries of sacred space and prayer throughout times of crisis and despair (national and civil wars, reformation and counter-reformation). Through it all the building has stood. It birthed our wonderful small village school named after a former Rector, Richard Hill, whereby he began teaching the children of the village in the porch still present today.

The walls tell a story which include the baptism of Protestant martyr Bishop Hugh Latimer to our present day in my time with both the death of Queen Elizabeth II and coronation of King Charles III.

The parish church is a heartbeat of village life marking life's milestones: celebrating birth and love with baptisms and weddings and lamenting the loss of loved ones with funerals and memorials.

It is both civic and spiritual, inviting each of us in our own way to join in and share the unfolding story. There is space for you to join in and help write the next chapter.

Blessings

Reverend Matthew Gough, Rector.

From the registers...

Wedding



Saturday August 23rd

Jenny Kemp and Glen Fulcher of Cropston,
All Saints' Thurcaston

Baptisms



Sunday August 17th

Tobias Wardle of Anstey,
St Mary's, Anstey

Sunday August 31st

Penelope and Frankie Brandt of Leicester,
All Saints' Thurcaston

Confirmations



Sunday August 31st

Kristine Jordan of Anstey,
Deanery Confirmations Glenfield

Readings for September Ordinary Time

Sunday,
September 7, 2025

New Testament: Philemon 1-21
Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Sunday,
September 14, 2025

New Testament: Galatians 6:14-18
Gospel: John 3:13-17

Sunday,
September 21, 2025

New Testament: 1 Timothy 2:1-7
Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Sunday,
September 28, 2025

New Testament: 1 Timothy 6:6-19
Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Journey in Faith Course

What is the Journey in Faith Course?

A 3 term course that provides the time and space for people to:

- Grow in their knowledge of the Christian faith
- Deepen their relationship with God
- Explore how to live out faith in the whole of life

Who can join?

It is open to anyone—there is some reading to do between sessions but you don't need to have done any studying before.

What does a previous participant say?

"If you want to know more about yourself and your Christian faith, then JiF is the course for you. You'll be welcomed and challenged, affirmed and changed, and you'll definitely be glad you came."



Course Details Introductory Session

Saturday 13th September
9.30-12.30 at St Martin's House

Course Venues

Monday evening	Nanpantan
Tuesday evening	Frisby on the Wreake
Wednesday evening	Ellistown
Wednesday evening	Knighton, Leicester



Please consider a donation of £40 per term to cover course costs

How do I join a course?

For more information email:
liz.rawlings@leicestercofe.org

To book a place:
visit the Hub or email
mmbookings@leicestercofe.org
stating your preferred venue

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Exhibition of Queen Elizabeth II's wedding dress and fashion to celebrate centenary

Next year, the largest-ever exhibition of Queen Elizabeth II's clothes will be staged at Buckingham Palace, in honour of the centenary of her birth.

Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Style, will include some 200 items – around half of which are to be displayed for the first time. As well as clothing, jewellery, hats, shoes, and accessories, there will also be design sketches, fabric samples and handwritten notes that give a glimpse of the process involved in dressing the late Queen for her many public appearances.

Caroline de Guitaut, the exhibition curator and surveyor of the King's Works of Art,



said: "Her distinctive style became instantly recognisable around the world, bolstering the British fashion industry and influencing generations of designers and couturiers."

The exhibition will include her wedding dress from 1947, her Coronation dress from 1953, and a number of the formal evening dresses she wore for banquets and visiting Heads of State. But there will also be the riding jackets, tartan skirts and silk headscarves that made up

her well-known practical everyday style.

'Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Style' will be at The King's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, from spring to autumn 2026. Tickets on sale from this November.

**TAIZÉ EVENING
MUSIC & PRAYER**

**ST MARY'S
ANSTEY**

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 7TH
6.30PM - 7.15PM**





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A Summer of activity for Thurcaston Bells



The Handbell Ringers rang at the Amberwood Care Home in Wigston in August, a new venue, and received a wonderful welcome. The programme included some old favourites such as John Brown's Body, Happy Wanderer and Sheep may Safely Graze plus new pieces like Tulips from Amsterdam, Le Coucou and Greig's Morning. We have just sent to LOROS from our ringing at Wigston and Cedar House a total of £150.00. We are having a break now until we start up again in September.

The Tower bells continue to ring out and we

are being joined by Anstey Ringers as they are now in the process of re-establishing their band and teaching a number of new learners. They have changed their practice night from Wednesday, which clashed with ours, to Monday, so we are now able to join them. This strengthens both bands.

We had thirteen ringers to ring for the national celebration of VJ day on Friday 15th August at 6.30pm and this was published in The Ringing World along with the performances of hundreds of other towers.

Working on the Royal Yacht “Britannia”

Mr Bill Haley, holder of the British Empire Medal, told us about his 27 years in the Royal Navy, including eight years working on the Royal yacht “Britannia” as Chief Petty Officer. There was a crew of around 240, plus the Royal Marines band to provide entertainment. The upkeep for the yacht was around nine rising to fifteen million pounds per year, but the money she earned for British companies greatly exceeded that.

There were several reasons for using a ship like this. Firstly, to enable Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip to travel to all the Commonwealth countries. Secondly, it could be used as a hospital ship in the event of war. Thirdly, to use it as a base to sell the United Kingdom’s products and services to customers around the world. Many lucrative contracts were signed on board with companies like Boeing and Rolls-Royce.

The “Britannia” was used between 1954 and 1997, and visited 600 ports in 135 countries. It was also used for several Royal honeymoons. The yacht would attend Cowes Week, and then take some of the Royal family to Scotland for their holiday. Incidentally, the national flag is only a Union Jack when it is flying on the jackstaff at the bow of a ship, otherwise it is the Union Flag.

Going through the Suez Canal needed careful organisation. The journey was made after darkness fell, as there were Russian missile emplacements along the route ...

In 1970 the “Britannia” made a tour to commemorate the voyage of Captain James Cook to the Pacific. He found a tiny passage through the Great Barrier Reef, and explored the east coast of Australia. His



Cropston Evangelical Free
Church
11th August 2025

accurate map making is still being used.

Crossing the Equator for the first time involves various traditions which necessitate getting wet, in tribute to Neptune. Luckily the Queen was not required to submit to

these rituals herself, as a willing Princess Anne was also on board and cheerfully accepted the indignities for them both.

In the United Arab Emirates the Queen was due to meet the Emir, and a rehearsal was held for the ceremony. Fifty white horses came down the gangway. The next part of the schedule involved a 20-gun salute, which made the horses scatter in all directions! In the end it was decided not to fire the guns

In Rarotonga a football match was arranged, Polynesians versus the crew. The Queen hinted that she wished the Polynesians to win. No problem – they thrashed the crew by 7 goals to nil!

In Papua New Guinea, where head-hunters had flourished, some crew went into the jungle in a vehicle, but found the track blocked by a chief in his colourful regalia, armed with a spear and boomerang. A crowd of natives surrounded them. They were taken to a village and persuaded to drink some kava, which is very potent. There was a large fire with a huge cauldron ready for cooking a meal. Natives danced around them. The chief looked at the visitors and said, in perfect English, “If only you could see your faces right now!”

Mr Haley remembered that Queen Elizabeth always had a smile on her face when she came aboard her favourite yacht, and would appear relaxed. Unfortunately, increasing running costs led to the government deciding to decommission the yacht in 1997. The Queen shed a few tears as she said



the time when Her Majesty last disembarked.

After questions from the audience and refreshments, the meeting closed at around 4 p.m.

Our meetings start at 2.15pm.

On 9th September we have a demonstration of Indian head massage from one of our members: Adele Fricker. On 13th October we have our Harvest Festival as usual.

Visitors (£4) and new members are most welcome at the Church Room meetings – just turn up on the day.

goodbye. The yacht is now moored in Edinburgh as a tourist attraction. Every clock onboard shows the time as 3.01 p.m.,

Mrs Maja Tompkins

Contact mobile 07709 201881.

Biblical characters might have said:-

~ Adam: "You are what you eat."

~ Eve: "At least he doesn't compare me to his mother."

~ Abraham: "I'm goin' not knowin.'"

~ Moses: "From a basket case to the promised land."

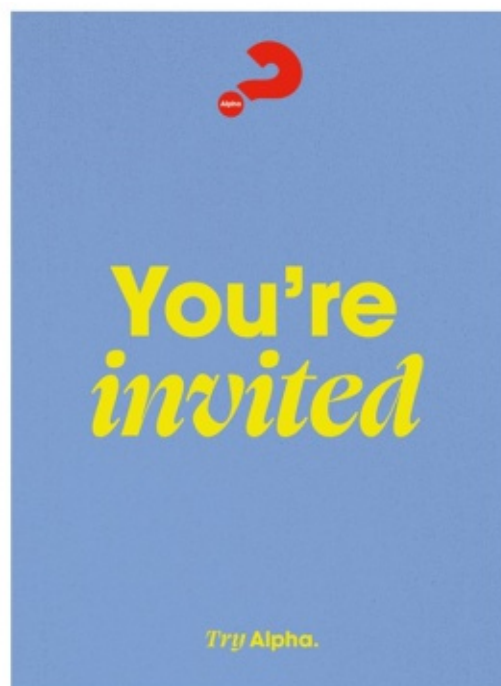
~ Prodigal Son: "All roads lead to home."

~ At the Sinai desert: "Winding road for next 40 years."

~ At the Red Sea: "Caution! Subject to sudden flooding."

**Coming
Soon to St
Mary's
Anstey**

Register interest no
commitment-
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Ruffle's walks - night time adventure!

By Rachel Greaves

Right!' said Eric, turning to his granddaughter, Alice, who was staying the night. 'We're going on a night time adventure! You need to put on a warm coat, hat and a scarf. I've made us a flask of hot chocolate and a couple of snacks. We'll need these fold-up chairs.'

Eric led the way out into the garden, shining a torch into the darkness. Ruffle trotted along with Alice - his nose following the snack.

Alice helped her granddad set up the chairs on the lawn as Ruffle watched. Very well, thought Ruffle and disappeared back indoors. A few minutes later he returned dragging the blanket from his bed.

'Ruffle wants something comfy to sit on as well!' cried Alice with delight. She set Ruffle's blanket on the grass next to the chairs. Eric had gone back indoors to fetch a bowl of water and some biscuits for Ruffle.

'Don't eat your snack just yet though Ruffle,' warned Eric as he placed the biscuits on the blanket.

They settled themselves down and Eric switched off the torch. It took a couple of minutes for their eyes to adjust to the darkness but then they found that they could actually see quite well as familiar objects in different shades of grey began to form.

'Look at the stars, Alice!' exclaimed Eric. Alice lent her head back and gazed up into the sky.

'Oh! They're like flickering lights - winking at us.' She pointed up into the sky. 'Look! That one is much brighter than the others.'

'That's right,' replied Eric. 'That's the brightest star we can see in our sky. It's called Sirius or the dog star.'

'The dog star!' repeated Alice, turning to



Ruffle. 'Do you hear that Ruffle? Now every time I see that star I will think of you Ruffle and remember that it's the dog star!'

An owl hooted close by, making them all jump!

'Let's listen for other sounds in the garden,' suggested Eric.

Alice nodded her head in the darkness. 'Yes! It's like a secret world. We might hear a creature that only comes out at night - one that no human has ever seen!' Alice's eyes twinkled as her imagination began to invent a variety of mysterious animals that lurked in the shadows.

Suddenly she grasped hold of Eric's arm as a crunching sound echoed through the darkness. 'Granddad! What's that noise?'

Junior Corner...

Alice whispered.

Eric looked around. 'It's the bearded, hairy backed Ruffle eating his biscuits! Hurry up Ruffie - you're making too much noise!' Alice giggled.

Ruffle looked at Eric indignantly. He couldn't help it if he was bored and fancied a snack! Ruffie looked at the water in his bowl. Um - perhaps he'd wait then - drinking could be a noisy affair and Eric didn't seem keen on him making a noise.

Eric, Alice and Ruffle sat for quite a while in the still darkness of the garden - amazed and thrilled with the sights and sounds.

You could sit out in your garden on a clear, dry night, listening carefully for sounds and looking at the stars. See if you can spot Sirius - the dog star! Remember - if you hear a crunching sound echoing through the night, it just might be the bearded, hairy backed...

For further information about Ruffle's story books and other adventures visit www.ruffletheraildog.co.uk or watch the series of short films on YouTube under 'Ruffle's Walks'

Bible Bite

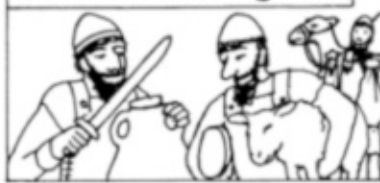
Part 1

A short story from the Bible

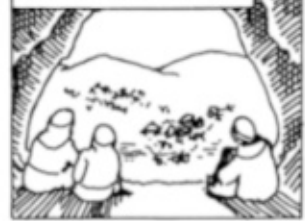
It can be read in the Bible in
Judges 6:1-7, 11-16, 25-35

Once the Israelites had moved into their promised land, they obeyed God, but not for long, so God let other countries invade.

The Midianites invaded every year, and stole all the food the Israelites had grown.



The Israelites had to hide in the hills.



After 7 years, the Israelites called out to God for help.



Gideon was secretly threshing wheat when an angel arrived.



The Lord is helping you, mighty warrior.

I don't mean to be rude, but it doesn't look like He is.



God said I will give you the power.

But my clan is the weakest in our tribe and I'm the weakest in my family.



I'll be helping you. Start by pulling down the altar built for Baal and build one for Me.



Gideon did as he was told (but he waited and did it at night).



In the morning, people came to complain to Gideon's father



If Baal is upset, he can take his own revenge, can't he?



Gideon sent out messages to call men to fight the Midianites..

and 32000 came.

Nobody gives this Baby a low rating!

Dirty Dancing (1987 film) will be shown on 12th September and lasts 100 mins.

Our September romantic drama dance film stars the unforgettable Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey. While spending a 1960's summer with her family in the mountains, Francis falls in love with the resort's free-spirited dance instructor. It's one of the most memorable films that I have ever seen, with our most favourite line, "Nobody puts Baby in a corner".

Mr Burton will be shown on 10th October and lasts 124 minutes.

Our audience choice for the October film is a touching true story about the early life of legendary actor, Sir Richard Burton, who had been a rebellious schoolboy. Welsh schoolmaster, played by BAFTA winner Toby Jones, takes the young Richard under his wing, encouraging his natural talent for drama. However, Richard has a difficult home life but Lesley Manville, Academy Award Nominee, stars as his kindly landlady and confidante. This is a tale of dreams. Will they come true?



Thurcaston and Cropston Parish Council will be showing this film in Thurcaston Memorial Hall, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets will cost the usual £5, which includes a lucky prize draw and refreshments during the interval.

You can park free in Richard Hill School. You can pay for your tickets at the door, if there are any left, or buy in advance from Diana 0116 2362 619 or Sylvia 0116 2352 873 or the Parish Office 0116 2367 626.

What time you should stop drinking the night before

If you drink alcohol after 10pm at night, you may still be over the limit by 9am the next morning.

So says IAM RoadSmart, a road safety charity. It has warned that drinking alcohol late into the night can pose a 'serious threat' to your safety as a driver the next morning. And even if you are within the legal limit, still a 'groggy head' means a slower reaction time at the wheel.

Chief Constable Jo Shiner, the National Police Chiefs' Council lead for roads policing, has said: "There is simply no excuse for getting behind the wheel when you are impaired through drink or drugs, and this includes the morning after."

Drinkaware, the drink-driving charity, says that on average, alcohol is removed from the body at a rate of one unit per hour.

RIDE+STRIDE

for Churches

ridestride.org

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13 SEPT
2025

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Eleanor Lloyd Jones

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sean.lcht@gmail.com or 0785 2467999

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Places limited to ensure tuition time for all

All equipment provided

Cost - £45.00

Starts - Thursday September 4th 2025, 2-4pm

**All Saints' Church, Thurcaston with Cropston,
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**Please contact Liz with any questions on;
07885 729549**

lizdowding@hotmail.co.uk

Facebook - Liz Dowding Artist

Instagram [liz_dowding_artist](#)



Dates for your diary

Four pages of Events and Activities this month

Date	Time	Event
Mon Sep 1	11.00am	<i>Bible Study Cropston Evangelical Free Church (CEFC) - Charity Coffee Morning - The charity for 2053 is "Operatiion Smile"</i>
Tue Sep 2	10:00am	<i>Food Bank. Anstey St Mary's Church Rooms (ASMCR)</i>
	Noon	<i>Leics MS Tuesday Group - ANSTEY JUBILEE HALL (AJH) Staddon Rd LE7 7AY - coffee/tea, biscuits & chat</i>
Wed Sep 3	2.00pm	<i>BACK AGAIN! Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church Thurstaston - coffee/tea, cake & chat</i>
Thu Sep 4	2.00pm	<i>Complete Beginners Art Course - All Saints' Church - see Page 20</i>
Fri Sep 5	9.15am	<i>Coffee Morning - (ASMCR)</i>
Sat Sep 6	10:30am	<i>(CEFC)- Charity Coffee Morning - The charity for 2025 is "Operatiion Smile"</i>
	2.30pm	<i>40th Annual Craft & Produce Show see page 25</i>



Sun Sep 7	9.15am	<i>Breakfast in the Church -Thurcaston All Saints'</i>
	10.30am	<i>Sunday Worship (CEFC)</i>
	6.30pm	<i>TAIZÉ EVENING MUSIC & PRAYER</i>
Mon Sep 8	2.15pm	<i>Monday Club - (CEFC) demonstration of Indian head massage (see page 15 for details)</i>
Tue Sep 9	10:00am	<i>Food Bank. (ASMCR)</i>
	Noon	<i>Leics MS Tuesday Group - (AJH) - coffee/tea, biscuits & chat</i>
Wed Sep 10	2.00pm	<i>Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church - coffee/tea, cake & chat</i>
Fri Sep 12	9.15am	<i>Coffee Morning - (ASMCR)</i>
	7.30pm	<i>Friday Film - TMH -Dirty Dancing</i>
Sat Sep 13	10am	<i>Ride and Stride All Saints' Church open (See page 19 for details)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Coffee Morning until Noon All Saints' Harrison Room</i>
Sun Sep 14	10.30am	<i>Sunday Worship (CEFC)</i>
Mon Sep 15	11.00am	<i>Prayer meeting (CEFC)</i>
Tue Sep 16	10:00am	<i>Food Bank. Anstey (ASMCR)</i>
	Noon	<i>Leics MS Tuesday Group - (AJH) - coffee/tea, biscuits & chat</i>
	7.30pm	<i>History Society-Thurcaston Memorial Hall - Thurcaston & Cropston before Enclosure Pt 2 Farming and Field Names P Smith</i>



September Services All Saints'

Sunday 7th

8.30am Prayer Book Communion
(followed by 9.15 breakfast)

10am Morning Praise

Sunday 14th

10.00 Holy Communion

Sunday 21st

8.30am Prayer Book Communion

8pm Compline Night Prayer

Sunday 28th

10am Holy Communion



September Services St Mary's

Sunday 7th

10am Communion

6.30pm Taize

Sunday 14th

10.30 Gala Service Churches Together
Parish Hall Recreation Ground

Sunday 21st

10am Communion

Sunday 28th

10am Fresh Morning Praise

Every Wednesday

9.30am Traditional Prayer Book
Communion

Dates for your diary

Events and Activities this month continued

Date	Time	Event
Wed Sep 17	2.00pm	<i>Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church - coffee/tea, cake & chat</i>
Fri Sep 19	9.15am	<i>Coffee Morning - (ASMCR)</i>
Sun Sep 21	10.30am	<i>Sunday Worship (CEFC)</i>
Tue Sep 23	10:00am	<i>Food Bank (ASMCR)</i>
	Noon	<i>Leics MS Tuesday Group - (AJH) - coffee/tea, biscuits & chat</i>
	2.00pm	<i>(CEFC) - Just for Ladies - Bring a craft, play board games or just have a chat. There will be a short Christian thought for the day.</i>
Wed Sep 24	2.00pm	<i>Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church - coffee/tea, cake & chat</i>
Fri Sep 26	9.15 am	<i>Coffee Morning (ASMCR)</i>
	3:00pm	<i>Tea & Crafts - (ASMCR)</i>
Sat Sep 27	9.30am	<i>Gift Day (see page 6 for details or to donate)</i>



Sun Sep 28	10.30am	<i>Sunday Worship (CEFC)</i>
Tue Sep 30	10:00am	<i>Food Bank. (ASMCR)</i>
	Noon	<i>Leics MS Tuesday Group - (AJH) - coffee/tea, biscuits & chat</i>
Wed Oct 1	2.00pm	<i>Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church - coffee/tea, cake & chat</i>
Fri Oct 3	9.15am	<i>Coffee Morning -(ASMCR)</i>

*To place your event in our Diary next month, email Barbara at
TCAdiary7@gmail.com*

The times for services at St Mary's and All Saints' can be found on the centre pages.



St Mary's Church Anstey

Special Organ Concert with Ron Berry

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musical experience

Join us for a Special Organ
Concert on Saturday
September 27th,
from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

Support our church building project

Enjoy beautiful music and support a
great cause—all donations will go
towards our church building project.
Your generosity will help us build a
brighter future together!
No tickets, just turn up



Dine Out with Trevor...

Dining Out: IMGE Restaurant

Coalville is to be found in Northwest Leicestershire. This former coal-mining town is located between Burton upon Trent and the city of Leicester, being approx. 12 miles from Leicester. Coal-mining ceased during the latter part of the 20th century. This area attracts many visitors and Coalville town provides commendable shopping opportunities. Be it a supermarket, independent retail shops or businesses, everyday needs and requirements are readily available. Housing and accommodation in Coalville offers a wide range of properties. A good number of eateries and restaurants, as well as pubs, are very much enjoyed by residents, locals and visitors.

I located award-winning IMGE restaurant in Coalville. This dining venue offers authentic Turkish & Mediterranean cuisine to a high standard. The open kitchen adds to the enjoyment of a visit. Many regular diners have been loyal customers since the outset (2002). A large car park is situated to the rear of this restaurant, which, at the time of my visit, was free for up to 2 hours, then modest charges apply thereafter.



Starter and main course dishes have excellent choices of meats, fish and vegetables. The two-course fixed-price lunch special is very popular, offering a range of IMGE's most loved dishes, plus the Mid-Week Special, Chef Special and



Sultan's Feast options. I favoured Special Mixed Starter Platter (Chef's selection of hot and cold mezes), then Chicken Delight (Chargrilled breast of chicken, creamy garlic, mushrooms, onions and comes with IMGE rice and mixed salad). Excellent, complementing flavours were in abundance throughout and all was perfectly cooked, with admirable presentations. Compliments were sent to Head Chef, Mustafa and the team, whose knowledge of flavour combinations, experiences and absolute delight in satisfying diners, came through greatly.

For dessert - Baklava. This delectation dates back to the Assyrian Empire and is hugely popular in Turkey and the nearby countries.

Gift vouchers are available (a wonderful idea), plus collections and deliveries. Catering for up to 100 people for private parties and fully-licensed, I found IMGE restaurant to be most excellent, with exemplary service throughout. Highly recommended.

IMGE Restaurant, 36 High Street, Coalville, Leicestershire LE67 3ED. Tel: 01530 510180.

E-mail: imge@imge.co.uk

Web: www.imge.co.uk

As always, Enjoy!

Trevor Langley

It was so lovely to see you all after a year's break!



Some of the gardeners who gave their time and energy to make the 2025 Open Gardens weekend a great success and a volunteer from our local Air Ambulance.

Gardeners from most of the Thurstaston and Cropston Open Gardens held in June, gathered for afternoon tea on a Sunday afternoon in August to celebrate this year's successful event.

The Open Gardens weekend was held, as always, at the end of June. It was a very hot weekend, but we still had a good number of visitors. We also raised some much-needed money for our local Air Ambulance.

So, at our Sunday afternoon gathering, we were able to hand over £2736 to a representative of the East Midlands Air Ambulance who also gave a short talk about the essential work of the Air Ambulance

Service.

In addition to the money raised for Air Ambulance; over £1500 was raised for other charities, including MS, bladder and pancreatic cancer, children's holiday home, and Papyrus (preventing teenage suicide). All having a special place in our hearts.

The Open Gardens weekend was a great success. Some 450 people visited us. Visitors were complimentary and appreciative of our efforts. The Open Gardeners would like to thank everyone who helped on the day, and to everyone who visited us.

See you again next year!

Calling local creatives for **Harvest 2025**



Arts Exhibition @Thurcaston All Saints Church

Free Entry

To secure a pitch, please Email catbenefice@gmail.com

Wednesday Hub is back!

- After a short break over the summer the Wednesday Hub will be starting up again on **Wednesday 3 September 2025**
- Every Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 4pm in the Harrison Room at All Saints Church, Thurstaston



- We've got books, games & puzzles, you can bring your own activities or just come along for coffee & chat!
- All welcome and it is free to attend
- The Wednesday Hub is jointly organised by the Thurstaston & Cropston Good Neighbours Group and All Saints Church. To find out more please contact us on 07435 265397



Social Events and Activities at All Saints' Thurcaston 2025

Updated Dates for your diary

Monthly Coffee morning resumes with a change in dates to coincide with events.

September 13th 10.30 – 12 noon, to coincide with Ride and Stride.

Saturday October 11th 10.00 – 5.00pm An Art Exhibition and Harvest display.

Saturday November 29th 10.00 to 1pm to coincide with the Winter Fair.

Saturday 27th September Gift Day 9.30 to 11.30am Your message from the Rector will be coming through your door.

Saturday 13th September Ride and Stride The Church will be open from 10am to 6pm

Saturday and Sunday 11th and 12th October Harvest Weekend with Art Exhibition

Sunday November 2nd 6.30pm Patronal Festival Choral Evensong

Saturday November 8th 7.00pm An evening with Sylvia Cole as she remembers the Falkland Islands

Sunday November 9th 10.00 Remembrance Sunday

Saturday November 29th Winter Fair 10.00 to 1pm

Christmas events will be detailed next month.

Your choice

One beautiful Sunday morning, a priest announced to his congregation: "My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a £100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a £50 sermon that lasts 15 minutes, and a £10 sermon that lasts a full hour. "Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver."

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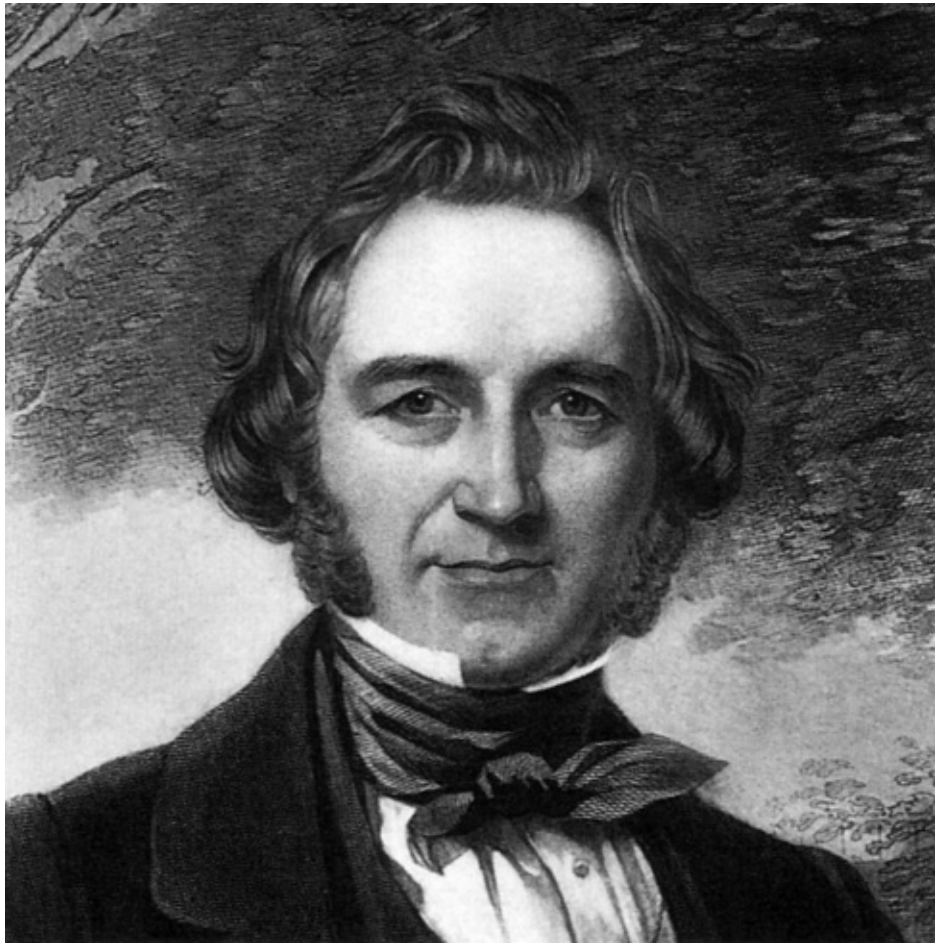
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07541 271584

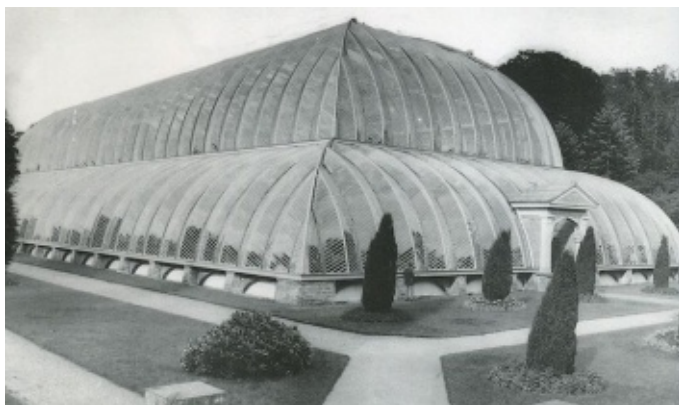
Joseph Paxton – ‘The Busiest Man in England’

The August meeting of the Thurcaston and Cropston Gardening Club was an excellent talk by Danny Wells. Danny set up ‘Breathing Life into History’ in 2004 and now offers over thirty historical talks and specialises in social history.

This illustrated talk was the extraordinary story of Joseph Paxton. From a humble Bedfordshire background Paxton became the Head Gardener at Chatsworth House by the age of 23. He had tremendous abilities and energy, and, allied to great support from the sixth Duke of Devonshire and his competent and devoted wife Sarah, he became a renowned gardener and plantsman, an engineer of distinction, and a pioneer of modern architecture.



Joseph Paxton – 1813 - 1864



An image of the great class house at Chatsworth, designed by Paxton

Paxton had a rapid rise to fame having already spent time at Chiswick House where the gardens had been developed and where the first Horticultural Society was established. When Paxton arrived at

Chatsworth the gardens had already been changed by ‘Capability’ Brown. But Paxton designed and created many more features. Most notable, at the time, was the great greenhouse (which preceded Kew Gardens), and the Emperor Fountain (the world’s highest fountain which still survives today).

Later, Paxton was commissioned to design the Crystal Palace for the Great Exhibition in 1841 on Hyde Park. He also took commissions away from Chatsworth to develop public parks across England. These were extraordinary times in Victorian England and Paxton mixed with George Stevenson, Isambard Kingdom Brunel and other great engineers. The early ‘plant hunters’ were also important in this story (it is estimated that in the year 1500 there were 200 plants in the UK, by 1839 there were 18,000).



An image of the Crystal Palace created by Paxton for the Great Exhibition.

This excellent talk wasn't about the cultivation of a particular plant, or about gardening styles – but it was about one of the most important times for British engineering and gardening.

*The Gardening Club meets in the
Thurcaston and Cropston Memorial Hall
Whether an experienced gardener or an
enthusiastic beginner we are sure you will
find something of interest in this year's*

programme. New members are made most welcome. What's more, it's excellent value!! The membership fee is only £15 for the year (pro rata) or £3.00 per meeting. So, if you are interested in gardening - come and give the Club a try.

For more information about the Club, please contact

**Dave Haddon (0116) 235 9758:
david.haddon22@gmail.com**

**Or Richard Elks (0116) 236 8313:
cropston161@hotmail.co.uk**

The next Club events are:

Saturday 6 September 2025

Annual Craft and Produce Show (open to all)

At Richard Hill Primary School, Thurcaston

Wed 8 October

Roses – All You Need to Know – by Kerry Austen

GRANTS TO ASSIST WITH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES



Richard Hill's Church of England School Charity

The Trustees of the Charity invite those under the age of 25 years who are attending, or have attended the Richard Hill School to apply for a grant to assist with educational activities (including social & physical training) not otherwise provided by the Local Authority.

Successful applicants have received assistance with funding for various activities including -

- Training course expenses: fees, accommodation, travel, equipment etc.,
- School trip to Gambia • Diploma in Legal Practice
- University Expenses • Further Education Drama Course
- Masters Degree in Civil Engineering • Music Lessons • Computer and Software

We look forward to hearing from you!

Applications should be made to the Clerk, Mrs Anne Stringer,
Email: **rhillcharitytrustees@hotmail.com** or Telephone: **0116 234 0625**

The Trustees meet twice a year and closing dates for applications are 30th June and 31st December.

Grants ranging from £100 to £1,000

will be awarded to applicants who meet the necessary criteria.

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August was another busy month for us at Cedar House... We continue to try old and new things!



We received lots of visitors and had special visits from Lilliput Nursery Group and Sidney Shakers. On Thursday 14th August 2025 we even had a Beach Party with all the



trimmings.

The residents enjoyed doing chair exercises with Boogie Beatz and Sally, our Activities Manager.

The residents enjoyed being entertained by guest singers Steve O, Chris Hyde, the singings divas Lesley Ann and Katie Rose and the multi-talented duo Mark and Freia.

We did several arts and craft sessions with our Activities Team and Sweet Petals, for example, night wear covers.



On Monday 4th August 2025, in the morning, the residents enjoyed attending the monthly church service.

This month the residents enjoyed listening to Charlotte on the saxophone and Alexander on the violin.

We also had a fabulous pet therapy session with Lion Learners, from the familiar to the exotic.



During one of our food workshops, we made some fancy strawberry treats with honeycomb and fudge.

The residents and staff also enjoyed a dart session with Waley's Dart Days. Pam became champion for the residents and Katie for the staff. Congratulations to you both!

We enjoyed a leisurely canal ride with the Peter Le Marchant Trust.

Sweet Petals also treated us to lots of exciting cakes and savoury snacks on their monthly pop-up stall.

We are making the most of the summer!



"Delivery for whoever ordered the trendy alternative to a basket of groceries..."



As far as Reg could tell, the burglar had disturbed nothing in the vestry

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On hymns – ancient and more ancient

The Rectory
St James the Least



My dear Nephew Darren

So, your church does not bother with hymnbooks but uses one of those hideous screens which are invariably strategically placed to obscure the altar. I suppose I am not bothered, as wherever you placed it in your converted cinema, it could never spoil its architectural aesthetics.

In my fortunately limited experience of such devices, they provide the projectionist with endless opportunities for showing the wrong hymn, or the right hymn but wrong verse, or the right hymn and right verse, but all upside down. In any case, the turnover from one verse to the next always takes place some milliseconds after that verse has started. This means that the congregation, having been silenced for lack of words, is then faced with the challenge of singing two lines at double time.

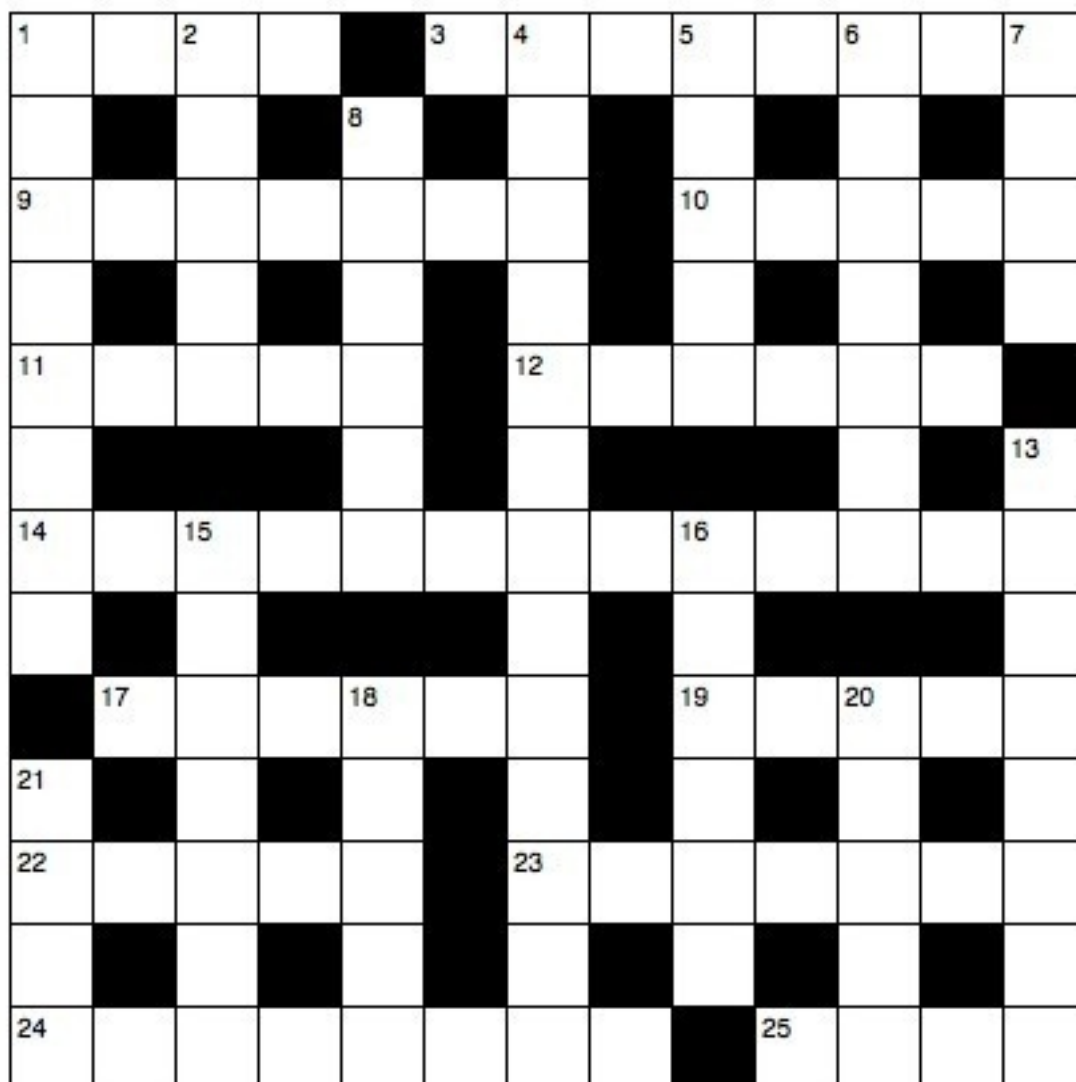
When we decided to move from Hymns More Ancient to Hymns Slightly Less Ancient some years ago, our Sunday attempts to ‘make a joyful noise unto the Lord’ threatened to get lost in the noise of battle.

Colonel Wainwright was happy so long as we continued fighting good fights and urging Christian soldiers onwards. Very keen on smiting is the Colonel; under his command, the Midianites wouldn’t have stood a chance. The men wanted the hymns they remembered from school, the ladies wanted those they had sung at their weddings, and no one would consider anything that dropped ‘thine’s or ‘wouldst’s. Then a vicious rumour started that the new hymnbook might even offer hymns written in the last 50 years. At this, timetables were consulted for bus services to the next village (and church).

Eventually we reached the perfect solution: we did nothing. Instead, Miss Simpson was charged with buying yards of sticky backed plastic and repairing the current books. But there was still a crisis to come: her young (and radical) niece decided to add a note in the front of every copy. It suggested that if the page for the hymn you wanted was missing, then you could share with the person sitting next to you. Of course, no one has done that yet; it would be an experience almost as traumatic as being invited to pass the peace.

And so, we struggle on with our Hymns More Ancient, whenever we can find the words. Harmony reigns once again.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Crossword**Across**

- 1** 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3** Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9** They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10** 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11** Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th- century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12** 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)

Crossword

14 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)

17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)

19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)

22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)

23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)

24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)

25 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

Down

1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)

2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)

4 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)

5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)

6 Of the Muslim faith (7)

7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)

8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)

13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)

15 CIA char (anag.) (7)

16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)

18 One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)

20 Episcopal headwear (5)

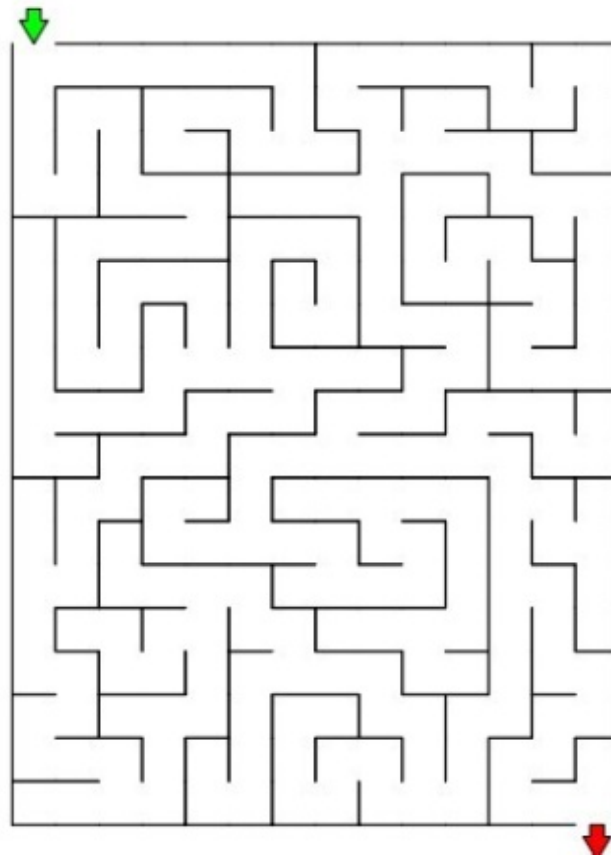
21 Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

Sudoku

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

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Maze



Crossword solution

A	L	S	O		O	F	F	E	R	I	N	G
R		L		F		A		N		S		A
T	H	E	M	A	G	I		R	U	L	E	S
I		E		B		T		O		A		P
S	O	P	E	R		H	E	L	P	M	E	
T				I		I				I		A
I	S	A	A	C	A	N	D	J	A	C	O	B
C		R				C		A				U
	S	C	O	R	C	H		I	N	M	A	N
S		H		E		R		L		I		D
L	O	A	D	S		I	N	E	R	T	I	A
A		I		I		S		R		R		N
V	I	C	I	N	I	T	Y		B	E	L	T

Sudoku Solution

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

*All Saints 200 Club winners...***AUGUST 2025 Draw****1st** *DIANA GREEN***2nd** *JENNY DOWNES***3rd** *AMY PAGE****Congratulations to August's winners!***

Make next month one to remember and join today.
 Contact Jane Westby (mowestby@virginmedia.com) for an application.

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