

CANALSIDE NEWS

for NOVEMBER 2025



The Silent Auction in figures

In Total there were **307** Lots given by **30** Households

The Total of lots bid for and sold was **119** so about **39%**

The Lots sold went to **38** different households

Total raised was **£856.66** which is **£31** more than at our first Silent Auction

The lots that didn't sell have either been returned to the donor, given to Julia's House and to Oxfam Charity Shops, given to the Group 5 Charity or found new homes for on Olio. We aren't aware of anything that had to be thrown away and I am very pleased to announce that even the lonely little chair left at St Mary's has now been found a new good home. Many thanks to all who supported the Auction in whatever way – it is very much appreciated.

Unfortunately, looking at the Finances for Hilperton and Staverton Parish for this year, £856 is just a drop in the ocean as I'm afraid we are now forecasting a deficit of about £12,000 by the end of 2025. Having said that your generosity has always proved the Treasurer's bleak forecasts wrong in the past and you are very welcome to prove him wrong again this year !

Thought from Joy

When reading the Bible, especially the Old Testament or Hebrew Bible, I am constantly struck by the importance placed on remembering. Both the ancient Jews and early Christians constantly told and retold their stories as a way of embedding them in memory. This ancient oral tradition of constantly reciting

their history, stories and lineage, was passed from parent to child, teacher to pupil for a thousand years, long before any written records were made.

For the ancient Israelites, hearing these accounts repeated time after time, was as important as the telling of them. The Jewish prayer the Shema Yisrail, begins in Hebrew, "Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone" (Deuteronomy 6:4). When it comes down to the most important things we need to learn, whether from God, our teachers or even our families, we are called upon to listen and to remember.

The beginning of November each year is a time of remembering and remembrance in our churches. On the first Sunday of the month, as close as possible to All Souls Day, we remember all our loved ones who have departed this life to live on "another shore and in a greater light" (quote from the Bidding prayer commonly used at traditional carol services). In the annual service in St. Michael and All Angels' Church, those present are encouraged to listen as we read out the names of those who have died in the last three years, and any others that we are asked to recall, and those who mourn are invited to light a candle in their memory. This is a deeply moving and powerful service of remembering, especially as each person comes quietly forward to remember their loved ones. If you would like to have the name of a loved one read out at this year's service on Sunday 2nd November at 3pm, please contact Michael Gamble canalsideoffice@gmail.com by 31st October.

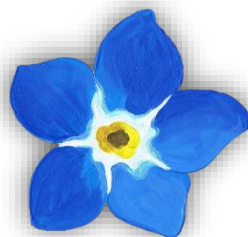
The acts of remembering and remembrance continue into the following week as our schools, churches and uniformed organisations, join the rest of the country in the Acts of Remembrance for those who have died in conflicts around the world. As again, we are invited to listen, as the names of those from our parishes recorded on our war memorials are solemnly read out. This year the services are on Sunday 9th November, beginning at 10am in St. George's Church, Semington; 10.50am in St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Hilperton; and 3pm in St. Mary the Virgin Church, Whaddon.

These annual services echo of the ancient tradition of remembering and recalling our history. They are important reminders of our pasts: where we have come from; and they are significant in helping us to look forward and to navigate our future.

So, this November, what or whom will you be remembering?

In Loving Memory for All Souls

Our annual In Loving Memory Service will take place on Sunday 2nd November at St Michael's at 3pm. This is a Benefice wide Service at which we remember those we have loved and lost, and all are very welcome to join us. The names of those whose funerals, memorial services or interments have taken place in the Benefice during the last three years will be read out during the service together with all those named in the Book of Remembrance at St Michael's. If there are others that you would like us to name during the service, please write their names on the list which is at the back of church or let Michael know by Friday 31st October.



Used Postage Stamps

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

100 Club Winners

Congratulations to recent winners of the 100 Club :
September: Joanne Cradock October: Ruth Kay

Advent Calendars



I will be ordering Real Advent Calendars again this year.

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

To ensure we have them for 1st December I will need orders by Sunday 2nd November please. Bev Woodward 01380 870784.

Morning Prayer on Tuesdays

Last month we began meeting in person for Morning Prayer on the last Tuesday of the month at St Michael's. This will continue on Tuesday 28th October at 9.30am. On the other Tuesdays Morning Prayer will continue online as before and the link is in the diary.

Christmas Decorations needing a new home

Do you have Christmas decorations that you no longer want/need? If so, please let Alison Hoskins have them for her stall at the Christmas Fair. They can be taken to St Michael's or St Mary's or left in the front porch at 42 St Mary's Close. (No Christmas trees taller than 1 metre, please.) Thank you.



THE CLOCKS GO BACK



**THE CLOCK CHANGE HAPPENS
AT 02:00 BST ON
SUNDAY 26 OCTOBER**

Hilperton & Staverton Churches'

QUIZ NIGHT 2025

**Friday
28th November**

**Raising Funds for
St Michael's and
St Mary Magdalen's Churches**

**6.45pm for
7pm start**

**St Mary
Magdalen's
Church
Horse Road
Hilperton**

**Tickets £5 each
available now
from**

**Michael
Gamble**

07795400262

or

**canalsideoffice
@gmail.com**

**Bring your own
Supper/Nibbles**

**Teas/Coffees
will be
available**

**Teams of 4-6
which can be
made
beforehand or
on the night**

You are invited to a Remembrance Day Coffee Morning

Saturday 8th November 10am-12 Noon

**Hilperton House in the Knap, Hilperton
with thanks to Ros Brown**

Cakes ~ Cards ~ Raffle ~ Bric-a-Brac etc

Entry £2 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits

The Morning will include a short Act of Remembrance

Proceeds to the St Michael's Flower Fund

In Loving Memory for All Souls time



**3pm ON SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER
ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS' CHURCH
THE KNAP, HILPERTON**

A SPECIAL SERVICE TO REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THOSE WE
HAVE LOVED, WHO HAVE DIED. A GENTLE SERVICE OF MUSIC,
READINGS AND REFLECTION, DURING WHICH CANDLES WILL BE LIT AS
THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ARE RECALLED.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE NAME OF A LOVED ONE REMEMBERED BY
NAME DURING THIS SERVICE PLEASE LET US HAVE THE DETAILS BY NO
LATER THAN FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER.

Contact: Michael Gamble

Email: canalsideoffice@gmail.com

Telephone: 07795400262



Forget-Me-Not



Prayer Requests



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

This month we pray for..

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



- We pray for all those who mourn at this time particularly the family and friends of Andrew Lewis and John Steel.
- We pray for the people of Sudan at this time of conflict, including Archbishop Ezekiel as he leads the Anglican Church there.

Autumn Coffee Morning in Hilpertont

Many thanks to everyone who supported the recent Coffee Morning at St Mary Magdalen's which raised £452.82 for St Michael's and St Mary Magdalen's.

Foodbanks Update

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

Storehouse

Foodbank



HELP!

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

Please use the collection boxes in the porches of St Mary Magdalen's and St Michael's to drop off food donations etc. Bill Stubbs then very kindly collects everything up and drops it off at Storehouse. As always Bill thankyou so much for all you do on this.

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

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

Storehouse is always in need of carrier bags



Melksham Foodbank continue to need all items but in particular at the moment require : biscuits, tinned meat, sugar, and in addition to all the usual stuff are collecting

some 'treat' items for Christmas, including 100g bars of Chocolate, and Christmas foods with dates well into January.. The demand for support is very high (please ensure all items are well within the best before date). They can also take large bags of rice, tea bags, sugar & pasta as these can be decanted into smaller bags for distribution. Please take your donations to the porch at St George's, Semington before 6pm on Wednesday.

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

A Prayer for World Peace

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

CANALSIDE DIARY

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

Day	Date	Time	Event details	Location
OCTOBER 2025				
M	27 th	1300	Burial: Andrew David Lewis	St George's Churchyard
Tu	28 th	0930	Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer (NOT online – see separate notice)	St Michael's
W	29 th	1000	Midweek Morning Worship	St Michael's

Th	30 th	0900	Semington Morning Prayer https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88553953942?pwd=1EHGGg18bBqqYKytMMRbYvZ5JZFZNM.1	Online
NOVEMBER 2025				
Tu	4 th	0900	Hilpertion/Staverton Morning Prayer https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89678887943?pwd=IkY2vBYNviwibNcoWUpqTtf4hpwQTA.1	Online
W	5 th	GUY FAWKES' NIGHT		
		1000	Midweek Holy Communion	St Michael's
		1430	Open the Book	Hilpertion School
Th	6 th	0900	Semington Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
		1045	Open the Book	St George's School
		1430-1600	Friendship Group	St Mary Magdalen's
		1445	Open the Book	Staverton School
F	7 th	0930-1100	Toddlers@theTin	St Mary Magdalen's
Sa	8 th	1000-1200	Remembrance Coffee Morning	Hilpertion House
M	10 th	1000	Funeral: Peter John George Steel	West Wiltshire Crematorium
Tu	11 th	REMEMBRANCE DAY		
		0900	Staverton's Act of Remembrance	Staverton School
		0930	Hilpertion/Staverton Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
W	12 th	1000	Midweek Morning Worship	St Michael's
Th	13 th	0900	Semington Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
		1430-1600	Friendship Group	St Mary Magdalen's
F	14 th	0930-1100	Toddlers@theTin	St Mary Magdalen's
Tu	18 th	0930	Hilpertion/Staverton Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
W	19 th	1000	Midweek Communion	St Michael's
Th	20 th	0900	Semington Morning Prayer Use link above	Online

		1000-1200	Community Café	St Mary Magdalen's
F	21 st	0930-1100	Toddlers@theTin	St Mary Magdalen's
Sa	22 nd	1000-1200	Christmas Festive Fayre	St Mary Magdalen's
Tu	25 th	0930	Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer (NOT online – see separate notice)	St Michael's
W	26 th	1000	Midweek Morning Worship	St Michael's
Th	27 th	0900	Semington Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
F	28 th	0930-1100	Toddlers@theTin	St Mary Magdalen's
		1900	Quiz Night	St Mary Magdalen's
DECEMBER 2025				
Tu	2 nd	0930	Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
W	3 rd	1000	Midweek Morning Worship/Communion	St Michael's
Th	4 th	0900	Semington Morning Prayer Use link above	Online
F	5 th	0930-1100	Toddlers@theTin	St Mary Magdalen's

CANALSIDE CONTACTS

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

REMEMBRANCE IN CANALSIDE 2025

Saturday 8th November

Remembrance Coffee Morning

10am-Noon at Hilpertont House



Sunday 9th November

Semington's Service of Remembrance

10am at St George's Church

Hilpertont's Service of Remembrance

10.50am at St Michael's Church

Whaddon's Act of Remembrance

3pm at St Mary the Virgin Church
during the Communion Service



Tuesday 11th November

Staverton's Service of Remembrance

9am at the School

ALL WELCOME

CHURCH SERVICES *in* CANALSIDE BENEFICE



	HILPERTON St Michael's	HILPERTON St Mary Magdalen's	SEMINGTON St George's	WHADDON St Mary the Virgin
26 th October Bible Sunday Last Sunday After Trinity		10.30am 'EXPLORE' SERVICE 4pm TEA@theTIN		
2 nd November Fourth Sunday Before Advent	10.30am HOLY COMMUNION 3pm IN LOVING MEMORY SERVICE			
9 th November Remembrance	10.50am REMEMBRANCE SERVICE		10am REMEMBRANCE SERVICE	3pm BCP HOLY COMMUNION with Act of Remembrance
16 th November Second Sunday Before Advent	10.30am HOLY COMMUNION		9.15am BREAKFAST CHURCH	
23 rd November Christ the King		10.30am 'EXPLORE' SERVICE 4pm TEA@theTIN		
30 th November First Sunday of Advent			9.15am BENEFICE HOLY COMMUNION	

Full details of upcoming services and events can be found on our
website www.canalside.org.uk