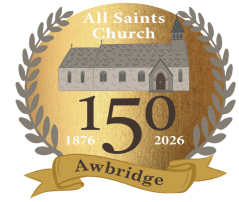


All Saints Church Awbridge - September 2026



*Jesus said
"They do not need to go away.
You give them something to eat."
Matt 14 v 16*



150th Anniversary of All Saints Church 1876-2026

We are half way through our 150th celebrations with a special anniversary service on Sunday 9 August, which was an amazing celebration of all that is good in a village church, joyful music, traditional hymns, a feeling of community all surrounded by flowers and decorations for the 150th exhibition, led by Bishop Rhiannon, Bishop of Southampton. This is what she said afterwards *"What struck me most was the deep affection in which the church is held by the local community. There was a tangible sense of pride, belonging and faith among those gathered, reflecting both the church's long history and its continuing place at the heart of village life."*

Our amazing 150th Exhibition took place from 3 - 14 August with outstanding displays and contributions from village families, church members, Craft and Chat Group, families associated with the church over the years and those who had written histories of their families in the Awbridge area. In particular we have been able to compile a list of our Vicars and Rectors over the years which enabled us to have a glimpse into their lives, while serving in Awbridge. Many thanks to all who contributed and to everyone who visited. Looking back at the history has made us realise too the faithful efforts of people who strived to build a church in this village, when journeys otherwise were to Michelmersh as the parish church or maybe Timsbury and Sherfield English. Also, now the windows have been cleaned, we can see their beauty and the faith stories behind them, in more detail. In addition, our windows for WW1 and WW2 remind us of the sacrifice of ordinary village men, fighting for their country, which include the QR codes, as at the Village War Memorial, giving more detail of their lives.

Our next major festival, of course, is Harvest which we will celebrate on Sunday 27 September, with our special Harvest Festival Service at 9 30 am, when the church will be full of flowers and produce celebrating this Season of Creation. Please bring gifts of dried/tinned food and toiletries for Southampton City Mission and see this link: <https://www.southamptoncitymission.co.uk/how-to-donate-food-clothes>. Thank you.

On the same day, our next 150th Anniversary event, is our Harvest Lunch at the Village Hall, following the Harvest service. The lunch includes a talk by Revd Tom Benson, on his travels across Europe, in the footsteps of St Paul, except travelling by motorbike rather than actually on foot. Tickets for lunch & talk are £15 each for Adults, Family ticket £30 for 2 adults & 2 children, these are available via the website www.awbridge.church (150 Celebrations Page) or QR code on the advert, the event includes a raffle but please bring your own drinks. For further information please contact Sarah Keith by email: sarahjkeith@hotmail.com.

Messy Church in August had an Eco theme, reminding us of the importance of looking after creation, especially with the challenges of climate change, with outdoor games and BBQ, the next session takes place on Friday 30 October at Braishfield Church Rooms.

Eco-tip for September: *The Season of Creation* (1 September-4 October) is dedicated to God as the Creator and sustainer of all life. During this period of the church calendar, many churches celebrate Harvest, thanking God for his provision through the land and the food that it produces with a Season of Creation focus. Explore Season of Creation resources at: arocha.org.uk/what-we-do/season-of-creation

Services and Events in September

Sunday 6 September	9 30 am Holy Communion 6 30pm Contemporary Worship
Sunday 13 September	9 00 am Family Breakfast Service at the village hall
Sunday 20 September	9 30 am Morning Worship
Sunday 27 September	9 30 am Harvest Festival with gifts for Southampton City Mission 12 noon Harvest Lunch, in the village hall, with talk by Revd Tom Benson on his motorbike travels, in the footsteps of St Paul.

Other Activities

Coffee Hub	Every Tuesday in the church rooms from 9.15 – 11.30 am
Prayer Meeting	Before Coffee Hub on 1 & 15 Sept, from 9 00 am
Awbridge Housegroup	Tuesdays 15 & 29 September from 7 30pm at Chanwel House
Craft & Chat	Fridays 11 & 25 September from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm in Awbridge Village Hall Committee Room Please contact Sue Franklin - 01794 322185
Lunch Club	Wednesdays 9 & 23 September from 12 noon, church rooms Please contact Sarah Keith - 01794 340707
The Ark Toddler Group	Fridays, during term time from 9.15 am to 11.00 am from 4 Sept in Awbridge Village Hall Please contact Lynda Tucker - 07884 492314

Useful Church contacts

Awbridge Church website www.awbridge.church

Rector	Revd Tom Benson	01794 368335	tbenson09@aol.com
Associate Priest	Revd Jane Thompson	01794 502035	jane.thompson@me.com
Curate	Revd Anthony Cross	07728 671302	curate.braishfield@gmail.com
Churchwardens	Fred Tucker	07740 027007	fred@chanwel.co.uk
	Mary Savage	07516 010794	marysavage126@gmail.com
Benefice Office	Sarah Boothman	01794 878020	braishfieldbenefice@gmail.com

Useful Village contacts

Awbridge Neighbourcare 08450 946155

Awbridge Village website www.awbridge.info