CANALSIDE NEWS
for NOVEMBER 2026



On Friday 16th October we said farewell to our very own Lady Marmalade – Jeannette Audrey Irene Worth – at a Celebration of her life held at St Michael and All Angels' in Hilperton. Jeannette had planned most of the funeral service herself including the Hymns – *Let All the World in Every Corner Sing, The Lord's My Shepherd, For the Beauty of the Earth and O Lord my God*. A small bird was flying around inside the church and I spotted it just as we sang the line *"And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees"* The Service began with *Elizabethan Serenade* by Ronald Binge and ended with the playing of *Time to Say Goodbye* sung by Andrea Bocelli and Sarah Brightman. The family's tribute was given by her Grandson Michael Roast. This was followed by her daughter Isabelle reading some notes written by Jeannette about her

treasured garden in Church Street. After the service the family invited everyone to join them in St Michael's Room for afternoon tea and this included a delicious cake made with some of Jeannette's own marmalade. Marmalade played a big part in Jeannette's life – she was even born in Paddington ! Over the years she raised a lot of money for our churches, for RNIB, for Sudan, for the Children's Society and many other good causes. Just before her death she received a certificate marking the 60th Anniversary of her joining the Mothers' Union and when she moved to Hilperton from London in 1998 she continued to help run the East Ham MU branch meetings before transferring to the Trowbridge branch. Donations given in memory of Jeannette at the Celebration of her life totalled £411.47 and this will be split between the Royal National Institute of the Blind (RNIB) and the British Heart Foundation. Rest in Peace Lady Marmalade and Rise in Glory.

Thought from the Rectory

You may not think there is much to connect Spider-Man and Strictly Come Dancing, but let's see if I can convince you.

It's not the first time I have mentioned Spider-Man in this sort of space. I think Spider-Man is great. I have loved Spider-Man, comics, TV shows and films, since I was 8-years-old and I have yet to grow up or grow out of it.

I read pretty widely and, if you were to come and look over my bookshelves, you would see everything from Pride and Prejudice to A Game of Thrones and plenty in between. A number of years ago, I gave a lift to a friend who also loved reading and with whom I would often discuss our favourite books. I had just bought a Spider-Man comic that day and it was on the backseat. On seeing it, she turned to me with wide eyes and exclaimed, "But you read Jane Austen! How can you read something like that!"

The point she was making, and I think it's fairly common, is that if you read something considered to be a classic, like Jane Austen, you must be intellectual

and discerning and recognising quality. And if that is the case, how can you possibly read something as trivial as a comic book?

Which brings me to Strictly Come Dancing. I must admit, this is not something I love. It's just not my cup of tea. But I get frustrated when I hear people talk about it in the same way that friend talked about Spider-Man comics. "No, I never watch rubbish like that, I am far too serious and important to watch celebrities dancing." Again, I think it's a common view. The person saying that sees their interests as serious and worthwhile and things that people enjoy that are deemed less consequential are deemed not only irrelevant but frivolous. More than that, you are judged as being frivolous for liking it.

At house group in Semington recently, we were talking about a bit of 1 Corinthians where Paul talks about things being brought into the light and revealed, and he says we should be aware of this, "so that none of you will be puffed up in favour of one another." To be puffed up is to think more of yourself than of those around you, to look down on people and elevate yourself. And, says Paul, on the great and glorious Day when God is revealed and seen by all, those who have elevated themselves and puffed themselves up will be thoroughly deflated. I always imagine a bouncy castle as the air goes out of it when I think of that.
When we look around at others and think we're better than them, we puff ourselves up. It might be because we think we've made better life choices than someone else, we're cleverer than them, we drive a better car than them or that the books we read are more consequential than others. We shouldn't think like that, though. As Jesus said, "Don't judge others, or you might find yourself judged and found wanting, like a deflating bouncy castle." I admit, that's my version, not the one you'll find in the Sermon on the Mount.

If it is something you like, I really hope you're enjoying the current series of Strictly Come Dancing. And, if you haven't seen it, I can thoroughly recommend the new Spider-Man film. I also hope we are all able to look around and celebrate the things that bring us joy, or that bring joy to others. I judge that to be particularly worthwhile. Rev. Chris

Dementia@Home

Dementia@home are running their monthly 'Time to Talk Carers Group' in St Michaels Room at the church on the 1st Thursday of each month, 10am - 12. This is an inclusive, friendly group, offering company and conversation to anyone caring for someone. Tea and cake are included and it is free of charge. Their team will be on hand to offer advice and support if needed. All are welcome. If you would like any further information, they can be contacted on 01225 282477

HOME START
North Wiltshire

Could you Change a Child's Future?

A few hours of your time could make a lifetime of difference.



Volunteer Coffee Morning!
Thursday 5 November
10am - 12 noon (drop in)
Avonfield at the Old Town Hall
Market Street, Trowbridge
BA14 8EQ

At Home-Start, we support families with young children who are facing tough times. With the help of volunteers, parents find the confidence, strength and resilience to give their children the best start in life.

Join Us & Help Local Families Flourish!
We support families across Wiltshire including Trowbridge, Melksham, Devizes, Calne and Chippenham. **Join our Coffee Morning to find out more!**

Call Dawn on
01672 569457
E: hello@homestartnorthwiltshire.org.uk
www.homestartnorthwiltshire.co.uk

Real 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, as last year, is £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 need orders by Sunday 2nd November please.
Bev Woodward 01380 870784.

Used Postage Stamps

With Christmas around the corner please don't forget to let us have all your used postage stamps. It would be great if you could save all your stamps and pass them on to Bill and Marilyn Stubbs who in turn pass them on to the Bible Society. Just pop them into the Storehouses boxes in the church porches and we will pass them on for you.

Hilperton and Staverton Parish Financial Update

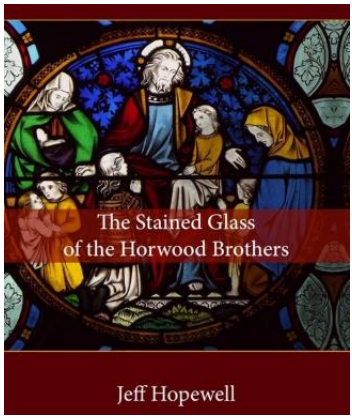
First of all I would like to say big thankyou to those of you who have increased your financial giving to church in the last few weeks following my piece in the September newsletter. As a result it looks like our income for the year will be around £69,000 whilst our costs are likely to be in the region of £96,000 – a shortfall of some £27,000. That's **£1,000 better** than forecast in September.

This year just over 60% (£58,000) of our likely costs is the amount we are asked to pay to the Diocese – our Parish Share - to help fund ministry and mission

across the Diocese of Salisbury, including clergy, housing, pensions and the services that support the parish. As you know last year we were unable to pay our full share and the Diocese wrote off the balance of £12,000. It remains very likely that we will only be able to pay about 53% of our share for 2026.

As you will see from this month's newsletter we still have a couple of fundraisers to go before the end of the year – please do your very best to support the Parish in its efforts to reduce our likely deficit. Thankyou everyone for your continued support. Michael

The Stained Glass of the Horwood Brothers



I visited the church at Whaddon some years ago to look at the east window made by Edwin Horwood. I am very pleased to tell you that my book on the Horwood Brothers will be published on 26 November. If you, or anyone you know, would like to buy a copy then it is available to pre-order now. I am also pleased that it has received some glowing advance reviews. All the details are on The Stained Glass of the Horwood Brothers – Boydell and Brewer and 35% discount is available using the code BB135 or a 40% discount by signing up to the publisher's newsletter. I will also be giving a talk on them in Frome on 6 March next year.
Details are on The Stained Glass of the Horwood Brothers -Frome Society
Jeff Hopewell (the Revd Canon)





The Horwood Window at St Mary the Virgin, Whaddon

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.

Alison Meader
Andrew Margetts
Audrey Sheppard
Barbara Tucker
Catherine

Colin

Den and Alison
Edward Fairclough
Eve Banks
Helen Thomas
Hilary and Mark Heaton

Maureen Mitchell
Mike Aldridge
Richard Marshman
Roger Emes

- We pray for all those who are mourning the loss of a loved one at this time and particularly for the family and friends of Jeannette Worth and Trevor Heekes
- We continue to pray for the people of Sudan in the turmoil of conflict, including Archbishop Ezekiel.

REMEMBRANCE IN CANALSIDE 2026



Saturday 7th November
Remembrance Coffee Morning
10am-Noon at Hilperton House



Sunday 8th November
Hilperton's Service of Remembrance
10am at St Michael's Church
Semington's Service of Remembrance
10.15am at St George's Church
Whaddon's Act of Remembrance
3pm at St Mary the Virgin Church
during the Communion Service





Wednesday 11th November
Staverton's Act of Remembrance
9am at the School

ALL WELCOME

In Loving Memory for All Souls time



3pm ON SUNDAY 1st 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 30th OCTOBER.

Contact: Michael Gamble
Email: canalsideoffice@gmail.com
Telephone: 07795400262

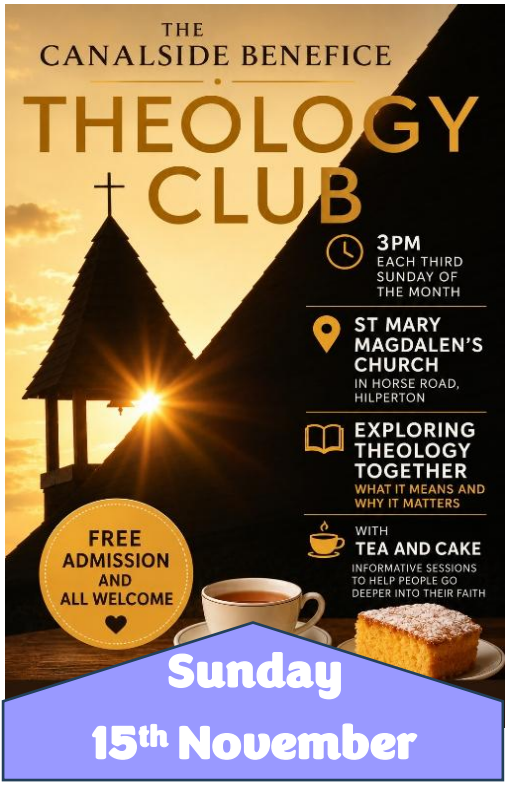
The Canalside Parishes

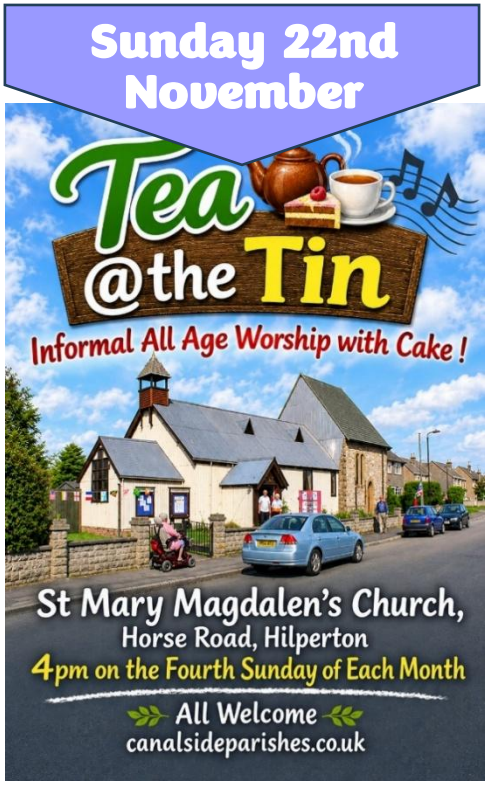
Forget-Me-Not




REMEMBRANCE
COFFEE MORNING
Saturday 7th November
10am-Noon
Hilperton House in the Knap by kind permission of Ros Brown
Cakes / Cards / Raffle / Bric-a-Brac etc
Admission £2 includes tea/coffee and biscuits
There will be a short act of Remembrance
Proceeds to St Michael's Flower Fund
ALL WELCOME


Hilperton & Staverton Churches'
QUIZ NIGHT 2026
Friday 27th November
Raising Funds for St Michael's and St Mary Magdalen's Churches
Bring your own Supper/Nibbles
Teas/Coffees will be available
6.45pm for 7pm start
St Mary Magdalen's Church Horse Road Hilperton
Tickets £7 each available now from
Michael Gamble
07795400262
or
canalsideoffice@gmail.com
Teams of 4 - 6 which can be made beforehand or on the night


THE CANALSIDE BENEFICE
THEOLOGY CLUB
3PM
EACH THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
ST MARY MAGDALEN'S CHURCH
IN HORSE ROAD, HILPERTON
EXPLORING THEOLOGY TOGETHER
WHAT IT MEANS AND WHY IT MATTERS
WITH
TEA AND CAKE
INFORMATIVE SESSIONS TO HELP PEOPLE GO DEEPER INTO THEIR FAITH
FREE ADMISSION AND ALL WELCOME
Sunday 15th November


Sunday 22nd November
Tea @the Tin
Informal All Age Worship with Cake!
St Mary Magdalen's Church,
Horse Road, Hilperton
4pm on the Fourth Sunday of Each Month
All Welcome
canalsideparishes.co.uk

Community Leaflet

The leaflet to go to every home in the Parish of Hilperton and Staverton, promoting all that we do here and how the community might be able to help us, is nearly ready for distribution. Thankyou to those who have already offered their help with the distribution in the coming weeks and already we have covered about 50% of the 2,500 leaflets to go out. We need more help and in particular in the following areas: **CHURCH STREET AREA / DEVIZES AND TROWBRIDGE ROAD AREA / NEWLEAZE AND HILL STREET AREA / PARTS OF STAVERTON MARINA / HORSE ROAD AND MARSH ROAD AREA / STAVERTON VILLAGE / VICTORIA ROAD AREA** At the back of church is a list of all the streets that we are aiming to cover and if you could take on the delivery of any of them please write your name next to each of those streets. Some of you live outside the Parish so you won't find your own road listed but feel free to take on some of the other roads within our area. Many thanks. Michael



For this event to be a success we need helpers on the day, people to bake cakes to sell on the day, raffle prizes to win on the day and lots and lots of money to spend on the day. Please contact Michael if you can help us.

THANKYOU

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.

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. A BIG thankyou to Tony Roddis for taking on the collections for us from Bill Stubbs.
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, especially tinned meats and vegetables. 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.

CANALSIDE DIARY

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

Day	Date	Time	Event details	Location
OCTOBER 2026				
Su	25th	**THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**		
		1030	**'Explore' Service**	St Mary Magdalen's
		1600	**Tea@theTin**	St Mary Magdalen's
Tu	27th	0930	**Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer** https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89678887943?pwd=lKy2vBYNviwibNcoWUpqTtf4hpwQTA.1	Online
W	28th	1000	**Midweek Communion**	St Michael's
		1430	**Open the Book Rehearsal**	St Michael's Room
Th	29th	0900	**Semington Morning Prayer** https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88553953942?pwd=1EHGGg18bBqgYKytMMRbYvZ5JZFZNm.1	Online
NOVEMBER 2026				
Su	1st	**ALL SAINTS**		
		1030	**Holy Communion**	St Michael's
		1500	**In Loving Memory Service**	St Michael's
Tu	3rd	0930	**Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer** See link above	Online
W	4th	1000	**Midweek Morning Worship**	St Michael's
		1430	**Open the Book**	Hilperton School
Th	5th	0900	**Semington Morning Prayer** Use link above	Online
		1000-1200	**Dementia@Home Time to Talk Carers' Group**	St Michael's Room
		1140	**Open the Book**	St George's School Semington
		1445	**Open the Book**	Staverton School
F	6th	1000	**Toddlers@theTin**	St Mary Magdalen's
Sa	7th	1000-1200	**Remembrance Coffee Morning**	Hilperton House
Su	8th	**REMEMBRANCE**		
		1000	**Service of Remembrance**	St Michael's
		1015	**Service of Remembrance**	St George's
		1500	**Service of BCP Holy Communion with Act of Remembrance**	St Mary the Virgin
Tu	10th	0930	**Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer**	Online

			Use link above	
W	11th	0900	**Staverton's Act of Remembrance**	Staverton School
		1000	**Midweek Communion**	St Michael's
		1030	**Act of Remembrance**	Staverton House
Th	12th	0900	**Semington Morning Prayer** Use link above	Online
		1430	**Friendship Group**	St Mary Magdalen's
F	13th	1000	**Toddlers@theTin**	St Mary Magdalen's
Su	15th	**THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**		
		0915	**Breakfast Church**	St George's Church
		1030	**Holy Communion**	St Michael's
		1500	**Theology Club**	St Mary Magdalen's
Tu	17th	0930	**Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer** Use link above	Online
W	18th	1000	**Midweek Morning Worship**	St Michael's
Th	19th	0900	**Semington Morning Prayer** Use link above	Online
		1000 1200	**Community Café**	St Mary Magdalen's
F	20th	1000	**Toddlers@theTin**	St Mary Magdalen's
Sa	21st	1000- 1200	**Christmas Festive Fayre** (see poster)	St Mary Magdalen's
Su	22nd	**CHRIST THE KING**		
		1030	**'Explore' Service**	St Mary Magdalen's
		1600	**Tea@theTin**	St Mary Magdalen's
Tu	24th	0930	**Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer** Use link above	Online
W	25th	1000	**Midweek Communion**	St Michael's
		1430	**Open the Book Rehearsal**	St Michael's Room
Th	26th	0900	**Semington Morning Prayer** Use link above	Online
F	27th	1000	**Toddlers@theTin**	St Mary Magdalen's
		1900	**Hilperton and Staverton Quiz Night**	St Mary Magdalen's
Su	29th	**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**		
		1030	**Benefice Eucharist Service**	St Michael's
DECEMBER 2026				
Tu	1st	0930	**Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer** Use link above	Online
W	2nd	1000	**Midweek Service**	St Michael's
		1030	**Holy Communion**	Staverton House
		1430	**Open the Book**	Hilperton School

Th	3rd	0900	**Semington Morning Prayer** Use link above	Online
		1000-1200	**Dementia@Home Time to Talk Carers' Group**	St Michael's Room
		1140	**Open the Book**	St George's School Semington
		1445	**Open the Book**	Staverton School
F	4th	1000	**Toddlers@theTin**	St Mary Magdalen's

CANALSIDE CONTACTS

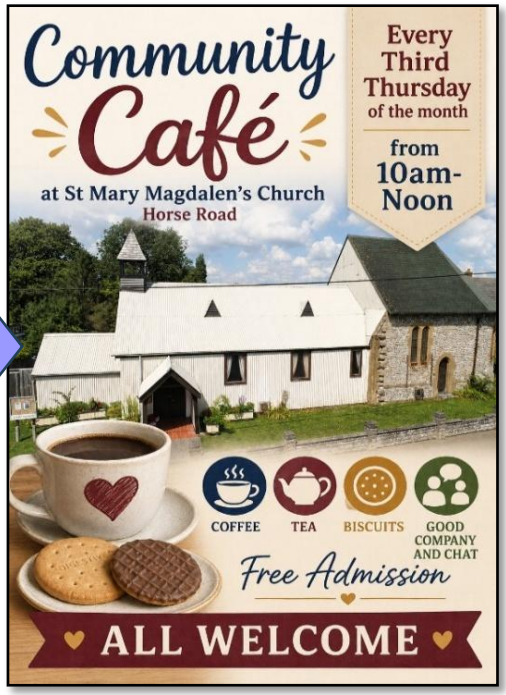
Rector	Rev. Chris Hunter	07396875236 01225 975510	rector.canalside@gmail.com
Associate Priest	Rev. Joy Albone	07931638524	revjoyalbone@gmail.com
Office	Michael Gamble	07795400262	canalsideoffice@gmail.com
Churchwardens			
Semington	David Wildsmith	c/o 01380 870784	c/o jackbev.woodward@gmail.com
Hilperton and Staverton	James Newton	07803904947	jpnewton@churchmouse.org.uk

Website	canalsideparishes.co.uk
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/canalsideparishes



Thursday 12th November

Thursday 19th November





Monday 7th December

CHURCH SERVICES *in* NOVEMBER

	HILPERTON *St Michael's*	HILPERTON *St Mary Magdalen's*	SEMINGTON *St George's*	WHADDON *St Mary the Virgin*
Sunday 1st November **ALL SAINTS**	**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION**			
	3pm IN LOVING MEMORY FOR ALL SOULS			
Wednesday 4th November	**10am MIDWEEK MORNING WORSHIP**			
Sunday 8th November **REMEMBRANCE**	**10am SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**		**10.15am SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**	**3pm BCP HOLY COMMUNION WITH ACT OF REMEMBRANCE**
Wednesday 11th November	**10am MIDWEEK COMMUNION**	**9am ACT OF REMEMBRANCE at Staverton School**		
Sunday 15th November **2nd SUNDAY before ADVENT**	**10.30am HOLY COMMUNION**	**3pm THEOLOGY CLUB**	**9.15am BREAKFAST CHURCH**	
Wednesday 18th November	**10am MIDWEEK MORNING WORSHIP**			
Sunday 22nd November **CHRIST the KING**		**10.30am EXPLORE SERVICE**		
		4pm TEA@theTIN		
Wednesday 25th November	**10am MIDWEEK COMMUNION**			
Sunday 29th November **FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT**	**10am BENEFICE EUCHARIST SERVICE**			



Full details of all our Services and Events can be found on our Benefice Website: canalsideparishes.co.uk.