Church of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham,
and St Simon and St Jude, Milton on Stour, together with St Nicholas, Silton.
https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6802/

NEWSLETTER – November 2026

Harvest Lunch



On Sunday 11th October parishioners gathered in the Vicarage School Room after morning service for lunch – an opportunity to break bread together and to celebrate the harvest. Steve Butler and his team laid on a great tasting and stylishly presented lunch, which also raised just over £300 for church funds. Some of our very talented members provided entertainment as part of the feast. Thanks to Janet Ball for the photo of Colin Marsh, and Janet and David Botterill (left). Anne Marsh was onstage too!

Remembrance Sunday



Remembrance Sunday was commemorated on 8th November with the traditional wreath-laying at the town war memorial including the two minutes silence, followed by the service in St Mary's at 11.15. Revd Becca preached and the Mayor, Councillor Donna Toye, read the lesson. Standards of the Royal British Legion and the Gillingham detachment of the Army Cadet Force were paraded. Rousing hymns were sung, accompanied by St Mary's organist, Daniel Cummins and by the Gillingham Imperial Silver Band.

Buildings latest



1. Look out for the start of works to the collapsing tomb in the churchyard in the next few weeks.
2. The Church architects have now issued the tender documents for the chancel re-roofing works to five potential contractors, who have all expressed an interest in the project. The tender return date is set for 7th December.
3. The new office door has been fitted. Miriam (left) is looking forward to not having to battle with opening and closing it. Thanks to F Cuff and Sons of Alweston for the manufacture and fitting, and Dorset Council for the Listed Building Consent.

News from Gillingham Community Cinema

Gillingham Community Cinema, which operates in the VSR, has made a successful start of its livestreaming offering with the opening night of the *Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra*'s winter season in October. Next on will be Bizet's *Carmen* from the Royal Opera House on 26th November, then a Christmas Special *The Nutcracker* from the Royal Ballet on 17th December. They are still doing films, including *The Christophers* on 12th November and *The Odyssey* on 3rd December. Tickets 07817 379006. Search on Facebook.

Church Treasurer

We are seeking a new treasurer to take over from Mike Sargent in January. This vital role may not be as difficult or time consuming as you think. Please consider if you could do it.