

# The Herald

50p

*new strength - they will soar up*

*Those who trust in the Lord will have*

*on wings like eagles . . . Is 40:31*



September 2025

# Reservoir Group of Churches



The Parish of  
St Margaret, Downham with  
St Peter, South Hanningfield and  
St Mary the Virgin, Ramsden Bellhouse

[www.downhamchurch.org.uk](http://www.downhamchurch.org.uk)

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## Ministry Team

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### Keep up to date with events as they happen

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[www.facebook.com/ramsdenbellhousechurch](http://www.facebook.com/ramsdenbellhousechurch)

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## What's on when and where

### Sunday 7 September - Trinity 12

11.00am	St Margaret's Downham	Family Service with Holy Communion
5.00pm	St Peter's South Hanningfield	Flower Festival Songs of Praise

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

### Sunday 14 September - Trinity 13

10.00am	St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse	Morning Prayer
11.00am	St Margaret's Downham	Sung Eucharist

Note: No service at South Hanningfield

### Sunday 21 September - Trinity 14

11.00am	St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse	Group Holy Communion
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Note: No services at Downham or South Hanningfield

### Sunday 28 September - Trinity 15

10.00am	St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse	Holy Communion
11.00am	St Margaret's Downham	Sung Eucharist

Note: No service at South Hanningfield

### Sunday 5 October - Trinity 16

10.00am	St Peter's South Hanningfield	Holy Communion
11.00am	St Margaret's Downham	Family Service

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

## Other dates for your diary

Saturday 27 September

Macmillan Coffee Morning

10.00am to 12.00 noon at St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse

Sunday 2 November

Thanksgiving & Memorial Service

3.00pm at St Margaret's Downham

Saturday 6 December

St Margaret's Christmas Bazaar

at Downham Village Hall (details to follow later)

# St Peter's Church

Church Lane  
South Hanningfield  
CM3 8HW

Invites you to our

## Flower Festival 2025 “A Posy of Poetry”



Saturday 6 September 12.00noon - 5.00pm with outside Fete

Sunday 7 September 12.00noon - 5.00pm with outside Fete  
with Songs of Praise service at 5.00pm

Monday 8 September 11.00am - 3.00pm

Light lunches and refreshments available each day



## Congratulations

Those of us who were in church on Sunday 10 August would have heard the announcement that the Revd Jacqui is engaged to be married to the Revd David Cattle, Vicar of St Michael & All Angels, Galleywood. They hope to get married sometime next summer, but the date and venue is still to be decided. We send them our congratulations.

## From the ministry team

September at St Peter's South Hanningfield means one thing: it's Flower Festival time!

Each year the Flower Festival has a different theme, and I am always blown away by how creative the flower arrangers are in bringing the theme to life with their floral displays. I always find I need to walk around the displays three or four times over the course of the weekend, as each time I see a new detail that I had not noticed before.

This year the theme for the Flower festival is 'poetry'. I am really looking forward to seeing how each poem is florally interpreted!

There is just something about poetry that can make us think; can transport us into the mind of another, or into a new place entirely. They help us tell stories, or explore ideas, or are just simply fun. One of my favourite poems is actually being used as the inspiration for one of the displays (I will leave you to try and work out which one that is!).

Poems have often been written to explore faith and help communicate something about God to others. There's even a whole book of poems in the bible, called The Psalms.

One of my other favourite poems was written by a priest, called George Herbert. He wrote a poem about the love of Jesus. A sacrificial love that we may not feel worthy of, but which we are freely given and are simply asked to receive:

*LOVE bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back,  
Guilty of dust and sin.  
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack  
From my first entrance in,  
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning  
If I lack'd anything.*

*'A guest,' I answer'd, 'worthy to be here:'  
Love said, 'You shall be he.'  
'I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,  
I cannot look on Thee.'  
Love took my hand and smiling did reply,  
'Who made the eyes but I?'*

*'Truth, Lord; but I have marr'd them: let my shame  
Go where it doth deserve.'  
'And know you not,' says Love, 'Who bore the blame?'  
'My dear, then I will serve.'  
'You must sit down,' says Love, 'and taste my meat.'  
So I did sit and eat.*

Love (III) - George Herbert (1593-1633)

God bless

*The Revd Jacqui*

## **Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen**

*The Church remembers Hildegard of Bingen on 17 September.*

If you want to make the most of every minute of your life, and to use your various talents to the utmost, then Hildegard is the saint for you.

Born as the tenth child into a nobleman's family in the Nahe valley of the Rhineland during the High Middle Ages, Hildegard stood out from others by the time she was eight. That was when she began to receive supernatural visions from God.

Understandably, her family felt that this sort of thing was beyond them, and so they entrusted her to a woman called Jutta, a female recluse with close ties to the benedictine monastery at Diessenberg. Seven years later, Hildegard became a nun of the community around Jutta, and when Jutta died in 1136, Hildegard became the abbess.

But Hildegard was never going to be one of your quiet nuns tucked away somewhere. Instead, she was always 'out there', and bursting with vitality and energy. She wrote on a wide variety of subjects from theology to medicine, to nature. She composed hymns, chants and songs. And she corresponded with many people, including royalty.

Hildegard was a strong, outspoken woman who saw herself as standing in the biblical prophetic tradition, and as such she was fearless in castigating and reprimanding people whom she saw as needing to repent.

Her supernatural visions of God continued from 1141 to 1151, and with the approval of the Archbishop of Mainz, she recorded many of them. This collection was called Scivias, and it dealt with the nature of man of the Last Judgement. When the Pope also approved her visions and writings, Hildegard's fame spread.

In time, Hildegard's community grew so large that it moved to Rupertsberg near Bingen, from where she travelled throughout the Rhineland, speaking and teaching. Above all, Hildegard had a firm focus to her life: Jesus Christ and His redemptive death on the Cross. She was devoted to Him.

## **From the registers**

### **Downham**

#### **Burial of ashes**

27 July	Bernard Harwood
17 August	Andrew Phillip Gratton
17 August	Danial Mathew Gratton
24 August	Stella Horsman
24 August	Clifford Horsman

#### **Funeral**

31 July	Paul Bernard Neale
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#### **Funeral & Burial**

24 July	James Thomas Reynolds
22 August	Malcolm Kenneth Pharoah

## **St Margaret's Downham**

### **New path**

If you visited St Margaret's at the beginning of August, you would have found that the path just within the lychgate had subsided quite dramatically causing a health and safety hazard. The rest of the path to the main door of the church has been looking tired for some time and was starting to crack, an unfortunate result of the extremely dry weather this year. Because of the risk to our visitors, the churchwardens took the decision to engage a contractor to strip off the existing tarmac, fill the areas of subsidence and lay a new tarmac path at a cost of a little under £5,000. We hope you will agree that the path looks much better than before.





The new path at St Margaret's.

## Downham WI

It appears Summer is over and Autumn is here. Summer was over in a flash. For our Summer Tea Party we had a big celebration for VE/VJ day. We decorated the village hall in red, white and blue with bunting, flags and our members too!! We had DJ Mark playing the vinyls of the 40's, 50's and 60's. All the Committee members made cakes and sandwiches which all went down a treat.

We are looking forward to recommencing the Tuesday Coffee Club on 2 September. On 9 September we are taking all the knitted poppies down to Southend Pier for Remembrance Day in November. It was a splendid effort by the ladies once again and we were very happy to support such an important cause. By the way it is planned for the whole of Southend Pier to be covered in poppies, which should be quite a spectacular sight.

I promised to report back on the Federation Quiz in July. Despite a valiant effort from the Downham Ladies, no trophies were won but did achieve a placement in the top ten.

In support of the Downham Village Hall, a few dates for your diaries on fundraising events.

Friday 3 October is a Quiz night 7.00 -10.00pm.

Friday 24 October is a Pie and Mash night with entertainment 7.00 - 10.00pm.

All proceeds go to the maintenance of the Village Hall. Please try and support if you can.

*Wendy*

## Downham Village Hall

# QUIZ?NIGHT

? Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025 ?  
? 7.00 for 7.30 start ?  
? in the Village Hall ?

Cost £10 per head (tables of 8)

Bring your own food and drinks

### Raffle

To book please call:  
Mike Roome 07770 795388

All proceeds will contribute to the cost of maintaining the Village Hall  
(Registered Charity no. 296139)

The Village Hall is available for hire and if you would like further information  
please call 01277 413343 or e-mail [contact@downhamvillagehall-essex.co.uk](mailto:contact@downhamvillagehall-essex.co.uk)

## St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse

### Flower Festival

We are pleased to say that the final figure raised for church funds from the Flower Festival weekend was £1,618. Thank you again to Gail Carpenter for organising this event, to members of the Billericay Operatic Society for their performance and to everyone else who helped in any way.



## **Ramsden Heath Social Club**

Our regular monthly Bingo is a SUPER BINGO which will be on Friday 5 September at 8.00pm. Still just £1.00 to play plus £2.00 for each book you would like to play with, but with additional CASH prizes.

All welcome. FREE tea/coffee/biscuits at the half-time break, but please feel free to bring other drinks/snacks of your own.

Our new club year will start again with our AGM being held on Friday 12 September at 8.00pm.

New club members most welcome – annual membership is £12 per adult, payable by cash or bank transfer. Membership allows you vastly reduced ticket prices to the majority of our events throughout the coming year.

There will also be wine & nibbles available after the meeting plus a few rounds of Bingo to finish the evening.

The final event in September is an INDOOR GAMES NIGHT which is on Saturday 20 September also at 8.00pm.

£3.00 for Members, £6.00 for Guest & £2.00 for accompanied Children.

Make up a team of 6 to 8 people or join a team on the night.

Come along & enjoy some fun but not too strenuous indoor games. Does your team have what it takes to be the winners?! Please bring your own drinks & snacks to this event.

All our events take place in Ramsden Heath Village Hall, Dowsetts Lane.

For more information/tickets please contact:

Dave Quinney on 07950 309524 or Dave Charlton on 07940 540819

## **Community Cuppa & Cake afternoon**

**Ramsden Heath Village Hall  
Dowsetts Lane CM11 1HX**

**Tuesday 9 September 2.00 to 4.00pm**

Considering it is holiday time we were still pleased to see so many people come along to enjoy an afternoon in an lovely air conditioned hall having a cuppa for 50p and a piece of homemade cake for £1.50. Also we have a book stall with a good variety of books and we just ask for a donation. In August alone the donation for the books came to £18.50.

Our August Charity was for the Genetic Alliance UK. We usually donate to local charities but this one is close to our hearts because a family member of one of our Cupcakes has received such a lot of help from this Charity. It supports people with genetic, rare and undiagnosed conditions in the UK which effects 1 in 17 people. A cheque for £200 has be sent to them.

Thank you all for supporting us every month so we can help to support charities.

Look forward to seeing you on 9 September (getting closer to Christmas - phew!!! )

*Ramsden Cup Cakes*

# Ramsden Heath Horticultural & Allotment Society

## Report on Summer Show 2025

Our Summer Show in August was another good day. Due to the very hot weather throughout June and July and a heavy rain shower a couple of days before the show, fewer vegetables and roses were entered than usual, but there were plenty of other lovely flowers, cakes and handicrafts for the judges and visitors to enjoy. Once again the children put on a good show, with some lovely sunflowers and very original and attractive collages.



Best in show was awarded to Jenny Tillyer for her beautiful foliage arrangement in a basket. Who knew that there are so many different shades of green (and white)? Congratulations to all the trophy, certificate and placement winners.



Thanks to everyone who entered and made the show such a success.

Our main show season is now over for another year, but there is still plenty of time to enjoy your gardening, and perhaps start planning for next year.

*Brenda Burnell*

Show Secretary

The day after the Summer Show, 49 members and friends enjoyed a great day out at Helmingham Hall gardens in Suffolk. The bonus was a classic car festival being held that day, with cars ranging from the 1920s to the 2000s. A great day was had by all.

So now we are moving into Autumn and our meeting on Thursday 4 September will be a talk by one of our members, Maria Carter, on 'Preserving your harvest and health'. Sounds intriguing.

Don't forget the mini show which will be Dahlias, fruit and vegetables. If you are taking part in the show, please bring your entries by 7.30pm to give time for judging before our speaker begins.

### **Note for your diary**

#### **Harvest Supper - Thursday 2 October**

Our next social event will be the Harvest Supper on 2 October. This is the chance to bring something to eat for the table as well as sample other people's delights. You can make savoury or sweet dishes and if you don't feel like cooking, bring cheese, fruit, pâté or something else from the supermarket shelves. Don't forget to bring your own choice of liquid refreshment and a glass to drink it from.

## **St Peter's South Hanningfield**

### **Flower Festival**

As we write this edition of *The Herald* preparations are well under way for our Flower Festival over the first weekend of September. See full details of times and what's happening on page 3. After all the hot dry weather we've been having we pray that it might continue for our event, but perhaps not too hot!

Hopefully you will receive this copy before the Flower Festival takes place. We hope to see you there and don't forget to tell your friends and family about it.

During the next year the church will have to find the money for major repairs to the spire, and also work to stabilise subsidence in the vestry. We are therefore hoping for a bumper result this year and thank you for your support.



## South Hanningfield Village Hall

**South Hanningfield Summer Show** We are pleased to announce that we have made just over £2,000 from the Summer Show fundraiser which is a fantastic sum and will go to the upkeep of the village hall. Thanks again to everyone who supported the village hall committee with this event. All of the photos from the day are uploaded on the website <https://e-voice.org.uk/shanningfieldvillagehall> courtesy of Tina Wing Business Photography who sponsored their photography service at our event.

**Annual General Meeting** We have had our South Hanningfield Village Hall's Annual General Meeting recently. The same committee remains for another year which are Clive as Chairman; Debbie as Treasurer; Sandra as Bookings Secretary; Richard and Geraldine. We also have Marguerite, representing St Peter's Church on the committee.

Our next event is the **Magic Evening** on Saturday, 27 September, doors open from 7.00pm. The magicians are from The Mid Essex Magical Society who performed at our Magic Evening last year. We got such great positive feedback about the magicians so have booked them again this year! It will be a fantastic evening of entertainment, with several sessions of close-up magic by different magicians and the second part will be magic with participation of the audience on the stage by a couple of individual magicians. The tickets cost £8 each adult and £3 for children over 10 years, under 10 years free. Bring your own drinks and snacks. There will also be a Raffle. For further information, email [vallisc@aol.com](mailto:vallisc@aol.com) or phone 07891 653238.

**Christmas Fayre** on Saturday, 22 November from 10.30am to 4.00pm. There will be lots of Christmas crafts, gifts, festive refreshments and a Raffle. Free Entry. The tables inside have already been booked up as this is becoming one of our popular annual events with only a few outside spaces available! There will be over 30 craft and gift stalls with a wide range of items for sale as festive gifts.

**Raffle Prizes Needed** If anyone has any suitable items that could be used as Raffle prizes, please can you donate them to us which would be used at future fundraising events for the hall. The committee would be very grateful.

**No Parking on Pavement by Hall** South Hanningfield Village Hall Management Committee requests that vehicles don't park up on the pavement outside the village hall because of the health and safety risks. Please alert the volunteer committee if you see such vehicles parked in this way outside the hall on 07891 653238.

# **SOUTH HANNINGFIELD VILLAGE HALL**

## **MAGIC EVENING**



**Presented by The Mid Essex Magical Society**

**Saturday, 27th September 2025**  
**Doors open from 7pm**

**Tickets £8 adults and £3 children over 10 years**

**Bring your own drinks and nibbles**

**Raffle**

**For more information:**

**Email: [vallisc@aol.com](mailto:vallisc@aol.com) Phone: 07891 653238**



**South Hanningfield Village Hall,  
South Hanningfield Road, Chelmsford, CM3 8HL**

**Registered Charity No. 301402**

### **Mobile Library**

The Mobile Library visit South Hanningfield Village Hall every three weeks.

Day of visit: Tuesday Time of visit: 11.25pm to 11.55pm

Next visit dates are 26 August and 16 September.

## **Regular Activities**

### **Coffee Morning**

Second Wednesday of each month from 10.30am – 12.30pm

Wednesday, 10 September

Please call the listed contacts below to book a place.

### **Pilates & Keep Fit**

Monday 9.45am – 10.45am

Thursday 10.30am – 11.30am

Contact Hayley on 07758 427379

### **Puppy Dog Training Classes**

Monday from 6.00pm

Dog training for puppies of all ages

Contact Rachel on 07484 706085 or

email: [Rachel@PuppyPotentialDogTraining.co.uk](mailto:Rachel@PuppyPotentialDogTraining.co.uk)

### **Line Dancing**

Tuesday afternoons 12.30pm-1.30pm (beginners) and 1.30pm to 2.30pm (more advanced)

Contact Richard from the Super Troupers Line Dance Club

email: [thesupertrouperstlhc@gmail.com](mailto:thesupertrouperstlhc@gmail.com) or tel 07740 360554

### **1-1 Ballroom and Latin lessons and wedding dance lessons**

Available with Callie every Wednesday afternoon and evening from 3pm £30 for a 45-minute lesson. Please contact Callie on 07885 630241

### **Yoga and Zumba Thursday night**

Zumba 6.30pm to 7.20pm and Vinyasa Flow Yoga 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

Pay as you go. Tel: Charlene on 07772 443028

or email: [info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk](mailto:info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk)

### **\*\*NEW\*\* Tai Chi**

11.45am to 12.45pm Thursdays (starting 4 September)

Six-week course

Tel Sen 07853 239103 or email: [senfitness@outlook.com](mailto:senfitness@outlook.com) to find out more information.

### **Upholstery Class**

Friday morning 9.30am – 1.00pm Contact Fiona on 01621 776586 or 07887 507208

## **Zumba Saturday mornings**

Zumba 9.20am to 10.20am Pay as you go

Tel: Charlene on 07772 443028

or email: [info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk](mailto:info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk)

If you would like to book the South Hanningfield Village Hall for any regular activities or events, please call Sandra Graves, our Bookings Secretary on 07396 546050 or email [shvhall@gmail.com](mailto:shvhall@gmail.com) to check availability and prices.

Please continue to support our local village hall in 2025 and if there are any other ways you can help us, let us know. Please contact the Chairman, Clive Vallis for further information on 07891 653238.

Website <https://e-voice.org.uk/shanningfieldvillagehall>

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/southhanningfieldvillagehall>

## **All in the month of September**

It was:

1,100 years ago, on 4 September 925 that England gained her first ever king. He was Aethelstan, King of the Anglo-Saxons (924-927) and then King of England (927-939). Aethelstan was grandson of Alfred the Great, and 30th great-grand uncle to Queen Elizabeth II.

300 years ago, on 29 September 1725 that Robert Clive, 1st Baron Clive (Clive of India) was born. This British general helped to found the British Empire in India.

200 years ago, on 27 September 1825 that the world's first public railway opened. It was the Stockton and Darlington Railway in north-east England.

175 years ago, on 9 September 1850 that California was admitted as the 31st state of the USA.

150 years ago, on 3 September 1875 that Ferdinand Porsche, Austrian-born German automotive engineer was born. He designed the Volkswagen Beetle and Tiger tank, and founded the Porsche sports car company.

100 years ago, on 8 September 1925 that Peter Sellers, actor and comedian was born. Best known for the Goon Show, and as Inspector Clouseau in the Pink Panther film series. (Died 1980.)

90 years ago, on 3 September 1935 that British driver Malcolm Campbell set a new world land speed record of 301.13 mph in Bluebird at Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah. First person to break the 300mph barrier.

Also 90 years ago, on 15 September 1935 that the Nuremberg Laws were passed in Germany. Jews were no longer classed as German citizens, and the Nazi flag was adopted as the national flag of Germany.

80 years ago, on 2 September 1945 that V-J Day (victory over Japan Day) took place. Representatives from Japan signed the formal instrument of surrender on board the US battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

Also 80 years ago, on 5 September 1945 that Iva Toguri (Tokyo Rose), an American-born Japanese radio propaganda broadcaster during WWII was arrested by US forces in Yokohama.

Also 80 years ago, on 19 September 1945 that the Nazi propaganda broadcaster William Joyce (Lord Haw-Haw) was sentenced to death by a British court after being convicted of treason. He was executed on 3 January 1946.

75 years ago, on 3 September 1950 that Italian racing driver Giuseppe (Nino) Farina became the first-ever Formula One World Champion after winning the 1950 Italian Grand Prix.

70 years ago, on 4 September 1955 that Kenneth Kendall became the first newsreader to appear on screen in the UK, reading the BBC Television News.

Also 70 years ago, on 21 September 1955 that Britain annexed Rockall, an uninhabited granite islet in the North Atlantic, to prevent the Soviet Union from placing surveillance equipment there to spy on Britain's secret nuclear missile tests.

Also 70 years ago, on 22 September 1955 that Britain's first independent TV channel was launched. ITV ended the BBC's monopoly.

Also 70 years ago, 26 September 1955 that Bird's Eye frozen fish fingers went on sale in the UK.

60 years ago, on 4 September 1965 that Albert Schweitzer, German-born French theologian, philosopher, organist, physician and missionary doctor to Africa, died. Winner of the 1952 Nobel Peace Prize.

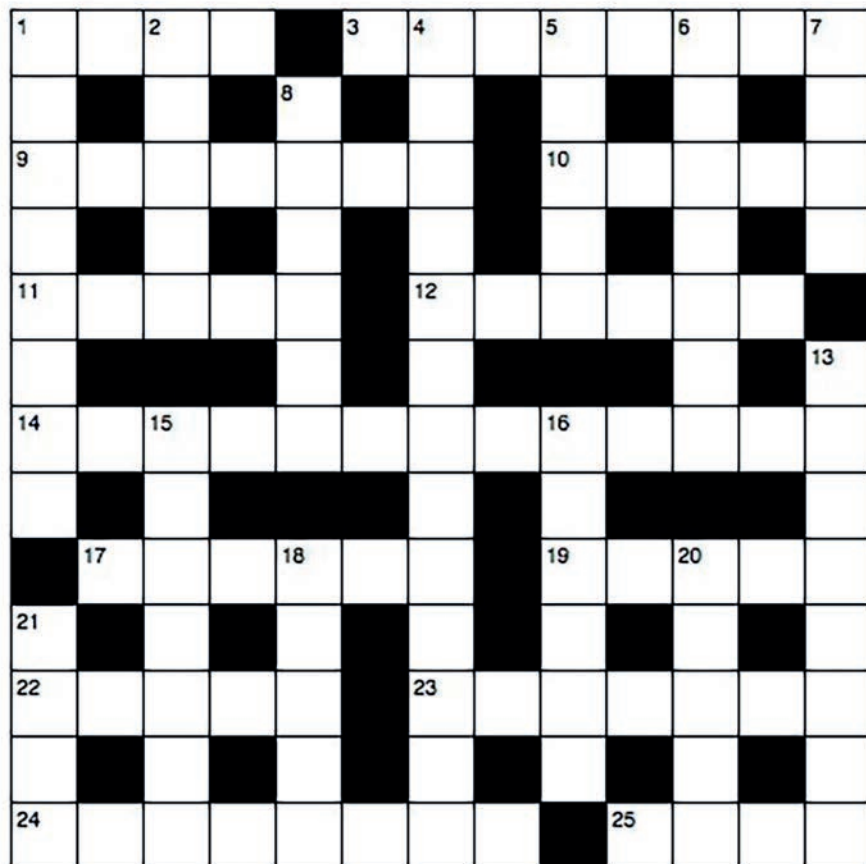
50 years ago, on 24 September 1975 that Dougal Haston and Doug Scott became the first Britons to reach the summit of Mount Everest. They were also the first climbers from any nation to conquer the south-west face.

40 years ago, from 9 to 11 September 1985 that the Handsworth Riots took place in Birmingham. Unemployment and racial tensions fuelled a mass riot following the arrest of a man in a café and a police raid on a public house. 45 shops were looted and burned, and at least two people killed. Several more riots occurred across England that autumn.

30 years ago, on 3 September 1995 that the online auction site eBay was founded (as AuctionWeb). The first item sold was a broken laser pointer.

20 years ago, on 12 September 2005 that the evacuation of all Israeli security forces and Israeli civilian settlements from the Gaza Strip was completed. Israel had occupied the Gaza Strip for 38 years.

## Puzzle corner



### 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)



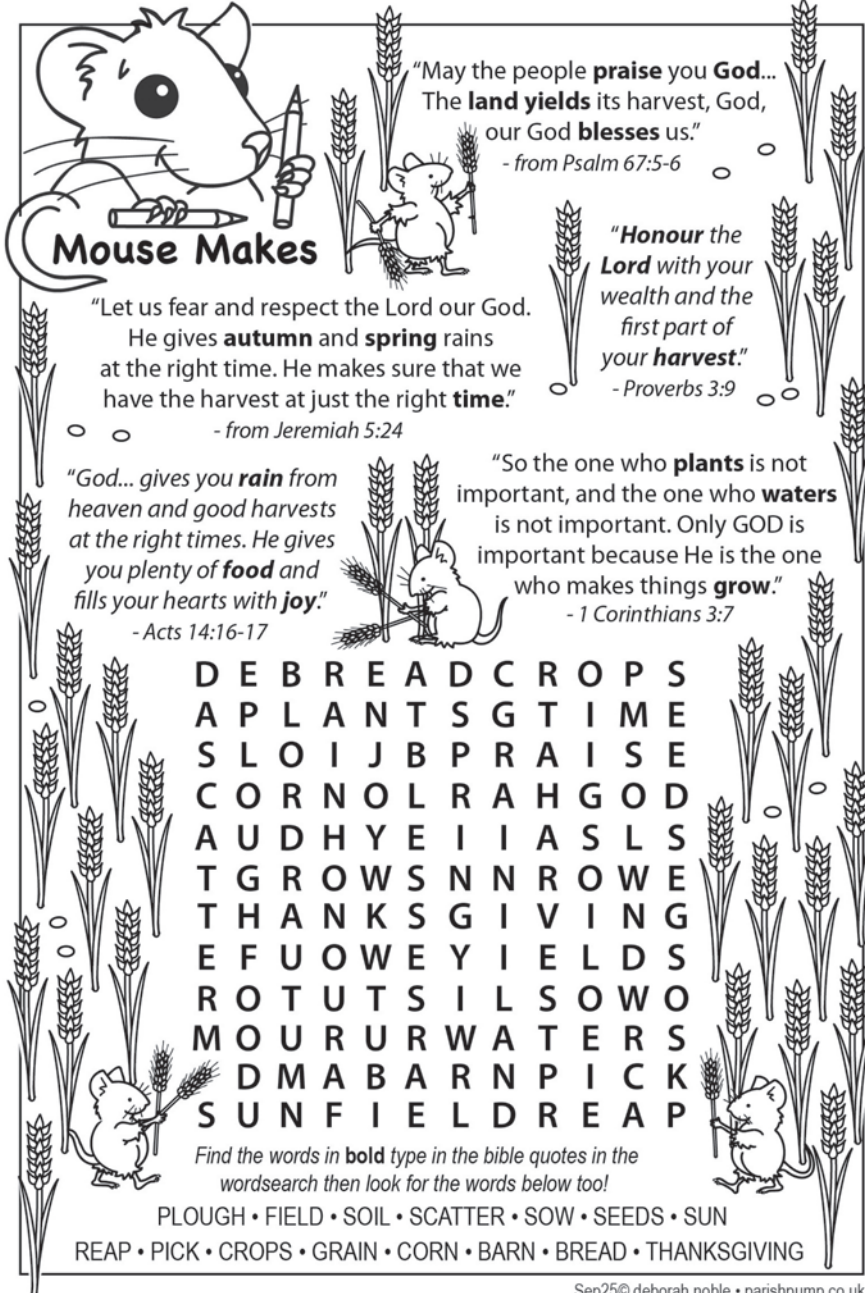
- 12 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — '
- (Psalm 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)

### Answers on page 33

## Children's pages



**Mouse Makes**

"May the people **praise** you **God**...  
The **land yields** its harvest, God,  
our God **blesses** us."  
- from Psalm 67:5-6

"**Honour the Lord** with your wealth and the first part of your **harvest**."  
- Proverbs 3:9

"Let us fear and respect the Lord our God.  
He gives **autumn** and **spring** rains at the right time. He makes sure that we have the harvest at just the right **time**."  
- from Jeremiah 5:24

"God... gives you **rain** from heaven and good harvests at the right times. He gives you plenty of **food** and fills your hearts with **joy**."  
- Acts 14:16-17

"So the one who **plants** is not important, and the one who **waters** is not important. Only **GOD** is important because He is the one who makes things **grow**."  
- 1 Corinthians 3:7

**WORDSEARCH:**

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

Find the words in **bold** type in the bible quotes in the wordsearch then look for the words below too!

PLOUGH • FIELD • SOIL • SCATTER • SOW • SEEDS • SUN  
REAP • PICK • CROPS • GRAIN • CORN • BARN • BREAD • THANKSGIVING

# Bible Bite

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.



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# Smile lines

## Fresh ideas for doing church

The elderly priest, speaking to the younger priest, said, "You had a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush bucket theatre seats. It worked like a charm. The front of the church always fills first now."

The young priest nodded, and the old priest continued, "And you told me adding a little more beat to the music would bring young people back to church, so I supported you when you brought in that rock 'n roll gospel choir. Now our services are consistently packed to the balcony."

"Thank you, Father," answered the young priest. "I am pleased that you are open to the new ideas of youth."

"All of these ideas have been well and good," said the elderly priest, "But I'm afraid you've gone too far with the drive-thru confessional."

"But, Father," protested the young priest, "my confessions and the donations have nearly doubled since I began that!"

"Yes," replied the elderly priest, "and I appreciate that. But the flashing neon sign, 'Toot 'n Tell or Go to Hell' cannot stay on the church roof!"

## Quotes that 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."

## Using the English language...

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that ...  
Electricians could be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged,  
models deposed, and dry cleaners depressed?

Likewise, bedmakers might be debunked, bulldozer operators degraded,  
organ donors delivered, software engineers detested, and underwear  
manufacturers debriefed? And won't all composers one day decompose?

On a more positive note, perhaps we can hope politicians will someday be  
devoted ...

# Contacting The Herald

## Contributions to the October edition

Copy for the next edition of The Herald should be sent by email to Robert Andrews at [theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk](mailto:theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk) by **Thursday 18 September**. Please send files in .doc, .docx or .rtf format. Because we wish to maintain a common house style please keep any formatting to an absolute minimum and do not embed photographs or other artwork. If you wish to include photographs or other artwork they should be sent separately in .jpeg or .pdf format. If you are unable to use email or are unsure about file types please telephone Robert on 01268 733817, but be aware that the telephone line has BT Call Guardian installed to deter nuisance callers, therefore you may have to announce your name and press the # key in order to be put through.

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## Answers to the Crossword puzzle

**ACROSS:** 1, Also. 3, Offering. 9, The Magi. 10, Rules. 11, Soper. 12, Help me. 14, Isaac and Jacob. 17, Scorch. 19, In man. 22, Loads. 23, Inertia. 24, Vicinity. 25, Belt.

**DOWN:** 1, Artistic. 2, Sleep. 4, Faith in Christ. 5, Enrol. 6, Islamic. 7, Gasp. 8, Fabric. 13, Abundant. 15, Archaic. 16, Jailer. 18, Resin. 20, Mitre. 21, Slav.

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