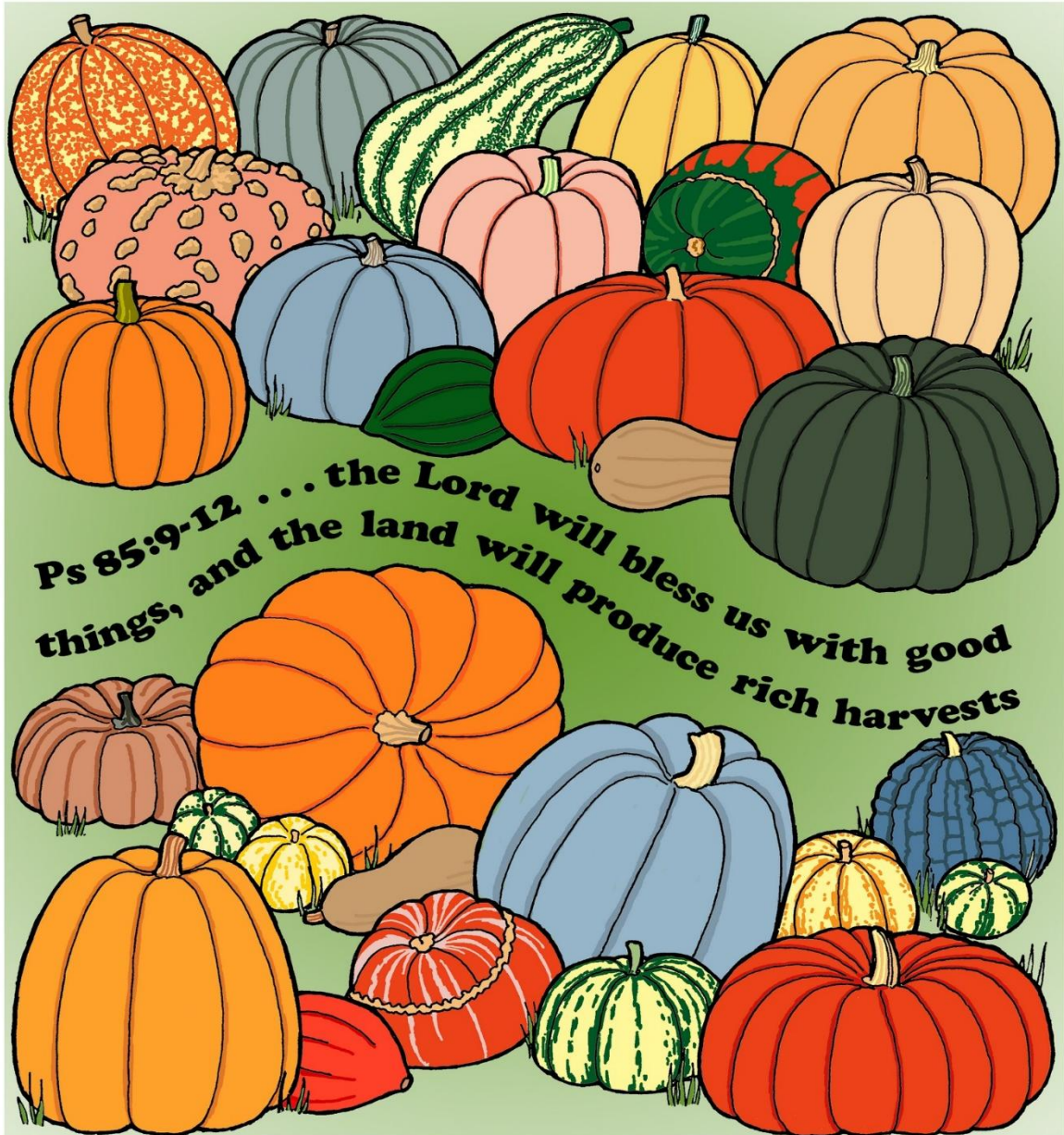




October
2025



WEST MOORS PARISH MAGAZINE

St Mary's Parish Church of West Moors BH22 0JF

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Magazine contributions for NOVEMBER 2025

By or before Sunday 12th October

gillianmaryclarke@hotmail.com



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FROM THE VICARAGE

Dear friends,

As the nights draw in and autumn deepens, October brings with it the season of Hallowe'en. For many today, it is seen as a time for costumes, pumpkins, and trick-or-treating. But at its heart, Hallowe'en has Christian roots worth rediscovering – far from being a celebration of the spooky ghoulies and ghosts, Hallowe'en is a time for us to celebrate God's great gift to us – eternal life with the saints.



The very name *Hallowe'en* comes from "All Hallows' Eve" – the evening before All Saints' Day when the Church celebrates all the holy men and women who have gone before us in faith. This was followed by All Souls' Day when we remember before God all those we love but see no longer. Far from being a celebration of darkness or fear, the festival was originally about giving thanks for the great cloud of witnesses who have shone with Christ's light and about trusting God with those who rest in His care.

This year at St Mary's our All Souls service will be on Saturday 1st November at 3pm and our All Saints Celebration will be at 10am on Sunday 2nd November.

This time of year also marks the drawing in of the long winter nights, and the colder weather returning. As Christians, we are not called to hide from the darkness, but to shine light into it. Jesus said, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life"* (John 8:12). So, we mustn't feel that the end of the summer marks the end of our joyful worship – that continues all year long here at St Mary's!

There is something especially joyful about autumn days: the sound of crunchy leaves underfoot, the beautiful colours created by our many trees in West Moors, and the simple pleasure of returning home to warmth after a chilly walk. It is a season that invites us to slow down, gather in, and enjoy a sense of cosiness and contentment – a reminder that God's creation has its rhythms, and that rest and reflection are as much a part of life as growth and harvest.

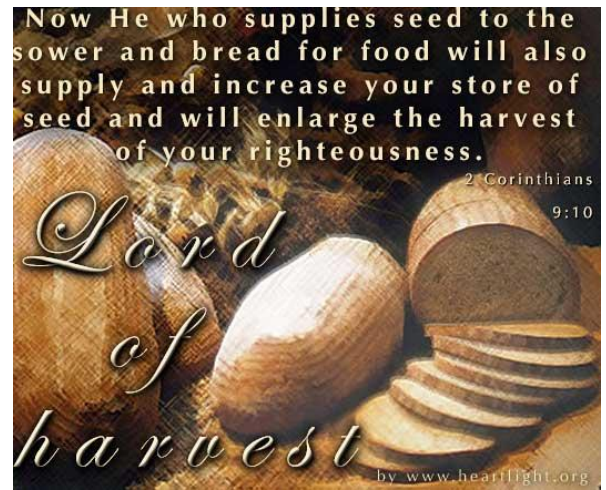
On the subject of Harvest, we give thanks for all of the donations and support that we received at our Harvest Festival from St Mary's school, St Martin's URC and the congregation here. All donations will be split between the Sharing Shed and the Castleman Community Larder.

I am delighted that our Sharing Shed is continuing to make such a difference. Each week, people from our community place tins, jars, and fresh produce on its shelves, and each week, those who need them most come and take what helps them get by. It is Harvest lived out in miniature: those with a little extra leaving it for those who are in need. Thank you to all who give so faithfully!

“Now God who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.” 2 Corinthians 9:8

With blessings,

Rev Lizzie Duckhouse.



Lectionary for OCTOBER

Sunday 5 October

‘We Believe in the Holy Spirit’

Preaching series on Nicene Creed 1700 anniversary

Readings: Preachers choice.

Sunday 12 October

‘We believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church’

Preaching series on Nicene Creed 1700 anniversary

Readings: Preachers choice.

Sunday 19 October

Genesis 32:22-31

2 Timothy 3.14-4.5

Luke 18.1-8

Sunday 26 October

Ecclesiasticus 35.12-17

2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18

Luke 18.9-14

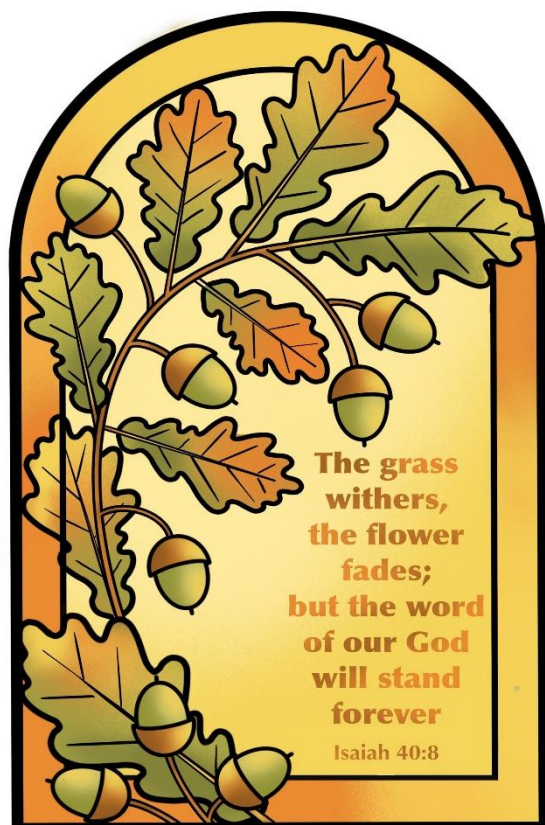
Sunday 2 November

All Saints’ Day (White)

Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18

Ephesians 1.11-end

Luke 6.20-31

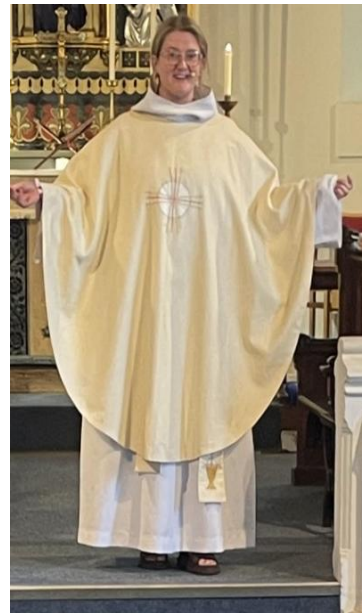


HAPPY SNAPS – triggered by Auction of Promises!

Afternoon tea, fish and chips, geocaching, meet the chickens, model railway and more!



FAREWELL TO REV MICHAEL



Thank you to Rev Michael for this thoughtfully-chosen parting gift; a beautiful chasuble. Such a lovely way for us to remember his ministry with us!



THANK YOU!

And every blessing to Revs Michael and Kate as they begin the next chapter in their ministry





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FUND RAISING NEWS

Chris Wilson

Here is our action packed news of our events for this Autumn and Christmas

PETS BLESSING SERVICE Saturday 4th October 3.00pm

This takes place on Fryer Field near the Pavilion

It's a joyful gathering to celebrate and bless our beloved animal companions with sing along favourites and a warm welcome

So do come along and bring your pets or simply come and enjoy everyone else's!
The service will finish with refreshments

BINGO EVENING Friday 24th October

In the Church Hall (see the details on the advert in this magazine)

THE STORY OF CHARLES DICKENS Saturday 22nd November 7.30pm

An evening with Jacqueline and Brian Sutton who will present the life of the great author, his story, wisdom and characters in words, music and pictures

It's in the Church Hall and entitled "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times"
Entry £8 which includes refreshments

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Saturday 29th November

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

St Martin's Church 4th-6th December 10.00am - 3.00pm

We have agreed to help this year and will need volunteers to help with serving refreshments and stewarding during some of the time
Please let me know if you would be willing to help.



VJ DAY: WEST MOORS REMEMBERS



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MU theme for 2025 – “Join US and JOIN IN”.

Meeting on the third Monday of the month at 7:30pm in the Church Hall.

Upcoming events-

Saturday October 18th The Autumn Gathering in the Memorial Hall at 10am. Bring a Packed lunch

Monday October 20th Our Meeting at 7.30pm in the Church Hall when Liz Johnson will help us to make Christmas cards, so please bring your own scissors.

Here we are in October and Summer is officially over. I hope you all had a good time with your families and perhaps travelling to new places and possibly making new friends. I am having my holiday this month travelling to Norway with my daughter. I have listened to several friends who have been there and all reports are good. It will be a double first for me, cruising for the first time and going to a cool rather than a warm climate.

During the summer our MU met up a couple of times. Our first event was a trip to High Mead Farm, where Chris Scott is a regular volunteer. He showed us around, introducing us to the animals and showing us all the various produce grown there. We ended the tour at the farm shop, where their produce is sold; I thoroughly recommend the lemon shortcake biscuits.

In August we held a fund- raising event, a Strawberry and Cream tea in Alyson's pretty garden. The ' behind the scenes' team worked really hard making cakes and transporting chairs and tables etc from Church. The weather was delightful, sunny but not too hot. We were pleased to welcome friends from Ferndown St Mary's as well as many from our congregation and the financial result was one of our best yet, £325, towards MU projects so a VERY BIG THANK YOU to you all.

I have probably spoken of this before but whenever I hear our Church being spoken about the one thing that is always said is that it is a friendly Church always making folk feel welcome, something I have always felt, and to this end even if you are not a MU member you are always welcome at any of our meetings or events.

Dare I say it but when I next write for the magazine we will be thinking of Advent and Christmas, another time to connect with family and friends.

Love and blessings

Mary Hurdley

God of stillness and trust, we ask that in this hurried world
where many are filled with anxiety, uncertainty, and doubt,
we may experience that true peace which only you can give.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen



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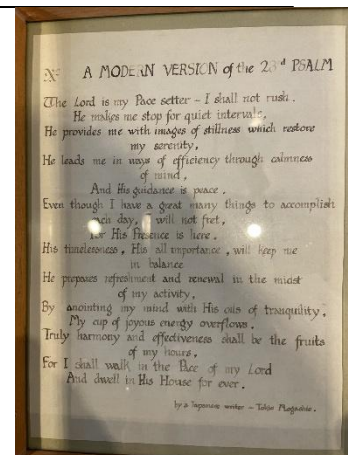
Windows 10 End Of Life Concerns?

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PSALM 23 FOR BUSY PEOPLE

Toki Miyashina

The Lord is my Pace Setter, I shall not rush,
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals,
He provides me with images of stillness,
Which restore my serenity.
He leads me in ways of efficiency,
through calmness of mind; and his guidance is peace.
Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day,
I will not fret, for his presence is here.
His timelessness, his all-importance will keep me in balance.
He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity,
by anointing my head with his oils of tranquillity,
My cup of joyous energy overflows.
Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruit of my hours,
For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord,
and dwell in his house for ever.



Thanks to Sue Mcgoona for sharing this lovely version of the 23rd Psalm.



**Community
Summer
Lunch**

**More beautiful toddler knits
from
Chatty Crafters
(special thanks to Judy!)**



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THE FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Thank you to those who donated Hillier Cream Tea vouchers in July which enabled us to go, as a group, and enjoy a half price cream tea together at Hillier Garden Centre at 3x. We had a great time.



When we began this group in March we started small with our church widows, expecting it to evolve. We are now also very happy to welcome any widows from the community. If you know someone who might appreciate getting out of the house and gathering for a cuppa and chat, with people in a similar situation, do suggest they come along on the 2nd Friday monthly, 2 - 3.30pm, to the Friendship Group. We meet in the church hall. They would be very welcome. One or two of us can offer a listening ear if anyone needs to talk or is feeling a bit fragile.

Our next few meetings are: 10th October, 14th November and 12th December when we are planning a Bring and Share late lunch (1.15pm).
Want to know more - contact Revd Lynne 07485 294 507

Change of phone number :

Please note that the number to contact Revd Lynne on is now 07485 294507. Please amend any device or record accordingly. The new number is also listed at the front of these magazines.

AFTERNOON TEA VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

Rev Lizzie has been approached by Carolyn Dennis who is looking for volunteers. Carolyn runs 'Connect the Elderly' in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Ferndown.

She says, "*Once a month I have twenty two volunteer car drivers, four from Ferndown and West Moors taking out elderly people for a little car ride and out to volunteer host and hostesses' homes for afternoon tea.*"

Is it possible for the parish magazine to put an appeal in for volunteer host and hostesses who could provide afternoon tea for six elderly people, and two drivers just once or twice a year and volunteer reserve drivers to cover when the regulars are unable to come."

If you are interested to know more or feel able to help with this, please contact Carolyn on 01202 424482 or carolyndxennis834@gmail.com



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Julie Hardman (01202 894881) juliehardman@rocketmail.com

Susan Yates (07759 151201) Susanyates1603@icloud.com

The Children's Society will be having a stall at the Wimborne in Bloom Charities Fayre which is to be held on Saturday 8th November (10.00am-3pm) at The Allendale Centre, Wimborne. We shall be selling our usual array of mince pies, cakes, nearly new gifts with a small raffle or tombola. Donations for the stall will greatly be appreciated. A box will be left in the Church Hall for donations nearer the time. Many thanks.

Our Wimborne Minster Box opening coffee morning held last month will be reported in next month's magazine as, at the time of going to print, it has yet to take place.

Children's Society Christmas Cards – We shall be selling the Children's Society Christmas Cards at our stall in November. If you would like to place an order please ask either myself (Geraldine) or Rosemary, Julie or Susan.

A prayer for Harvest-time:-

As the nights draw in and the leaves begin to fall around us, we pray for those for whom winter holds a particular fear. We pray for the homeless on our streets, and we pray especially for young people who find themselves without proper shelter or living in circumstances that feel unsafe. In this season of harvest, give us hearts that are hungry for justice and a willingness to give sacrificially, seeking a world where all your children have enough to eat and a safe and warm place to sleep.

With love and blessings,

Geraldine Cole/Rosemary Dunning/ Julie Hardman/Susan Yates



John and Lyn Partridge

**setting out on their sponsored cycle ride visiting
churches and raising money for Dorset/Wiltshire
Historic Churches Trust**

COME AND SING AT THE ADVENT CAROL SERVICES!

St. Mary's choir will shortly be commencing rehearsals to sing Anthems at the various Carol services leading up to Christmas.

As we are small in numbers, we would love some of the congregation to join us, so we have some extra voices to augment the singing. You don't need to be able to read music.



Rehearsals will take place on Thursdays in the church hall commencing on the 16th October, between 1-2 pm. We now practise in the daytime, to avoid people having to turn out in the dark evenings.

There are some lovely Anthems written for this season, which will be enjoyable to sing. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me, Valerie Robertson valerierobertson53@icloud.com 01425 483432

Or just turn up on the day. We will be happy to see you!

Valerie

WEST MOORS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

COFFEE MORNING

West Moors Memorial Hall

SATURDAY 25th OCTOBER

10.00am

Raffle, Tombola, Cake Stall etc

SUNDAY CHURCH BREAKFAST

The Sunday breakfast between services is set to return on the 4th Sunday of every month beginning on **Sunday 26th October** at about 8.45 after the 8.00am service.

The next breakfasts will be on Sunday 23rd November and Sunday 28th December.

COME ALONG!

FROM THE SIDELINES at ST MARY'S

Louise Collins, Stuart Stebbing

Church Wardens

Debbie Brown, Paul Brealey,

Christine Nutland

Assistant Wardens



Loving God, Loving West Moors

With the arrival of autumn and the changing of the seasons, it is an appropriate time to look back on the events and activities that have shaped our church life over the past few months.

One of the most significant occasions was Revd Michael's farewell service, which was followed by the traditional 'bun fight'. It was a fitting opportunity for the congregation to come together and give thanks for his ministry.

A Poem of Thanks and Blessing for Revd Michael

We've walked together, side by side,
Through sacred days and seasons wide.
In prayer, in service, hope, and song,
You've shared God's love, and led us strong.

At St Mary's, through a vacant chair,
You bore the load with patient care.
Your words have steadied, hands have blessed,
You gave your all, you gave your best.

Now God calls on, a path made clear,
To Stanley, Tanfield, South Moor near.
A shepherd's role, a wider field,
Where faith and grace through you revealed.

Though farewells tug, our prayers remain,
That joy and strength be yours again.
With grateful hearts we send you on,



wishing
you 
ALL THE BEST



The Quinquennial Inspection has now been completed, and the Finance and Premises Committee will be reviewing the outcomes. From this, they will identify the necessary work and put together a plan to bring to the PCC for consideration.

Following the recent incident when the bell rope broke, we have obtained a quotation and are making arrangements for the bell to be serviced and a new rope attached. This work will be carried out in due course. I am sure you will look forward, as I do, to hearing the bell once again calling us to worship — this time without the squeak!

As I write this, Harvest Fayre preparations are in full swing. Volunteers are ready to staff the stalls and donations continue to arrive. By the time you read this, the Fayre will already have taken place, and I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to making it possible.

Looking further ahead, I am organising another Bingo Night, which promises to be a fun and lively evening for all so please come along and support this. The next big Church event is the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 29th November.

Loving God, Loving West Moors.

Louise

Advent Quiet Day, Tuesday 25th November 2025
Theme: **Joy**



This may seem a long way ahead, but we need to have names/places booked by 27th October.

If you haven't been to a Quiet Day before why not chat to someone who has. (Revd Lynne can point you to others)

In Brief: It is taking time out of one's usual, often busy, routine to still the body and mind and relax into a time of reflection, usually with a Biblical/Christian theme. You can wander round the garden or find a quiet space within the property to reflect, and maybe draw closer to God.

On 25th November we will meet at the Greenhouse Christian Centre, 17 Burton Road, Branksome, Poole BH13 6DT. and start at 9.30am (aim to arrive by 9.20 to allow comfort break and settling in).

Mid morning refreshments and lunch together.

We then head home, usually about 2pm. Cost: only £16.50 pp.

Parking is limited so we try and car share. There will be a **sign-up sheet** on the wardens' bench. Please also indicate any dietary needs and whether you 'require a lift' or can 'offer a lift'. I can then link people up as needed.

Look forward to seeing you there. **Revd Lynne**



St Mary's West Moors



PET BLESSING!

Fryer Field, Bond Ave, West Moors

SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER 3PM

A JOYFUL GATHERING TO CELEBRATE AND
BLESS OUR BELOVED ANIMAL COMPANIONS

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contact
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for more information



ST MARY'S CHURCH

BINGO NIGHT

PRIZES ARE
CHOCOLATE
& WINE

Join us for a fun filled family BINGO night!

With 5 games, Joe 90 and prizes,
it's set to be a great night!

Friday 24th October

St Mary's Church hall

Doors open at 6.30pm
Games begin at 7.00pm

Adults £5.00 (full book)
Children £3.50 (1/2 book)
Joe 90 £1

To gauge numbers, please book in with Louise Collins
(01202 895528)
or email louisejasonc1@yahoo.co.uk

