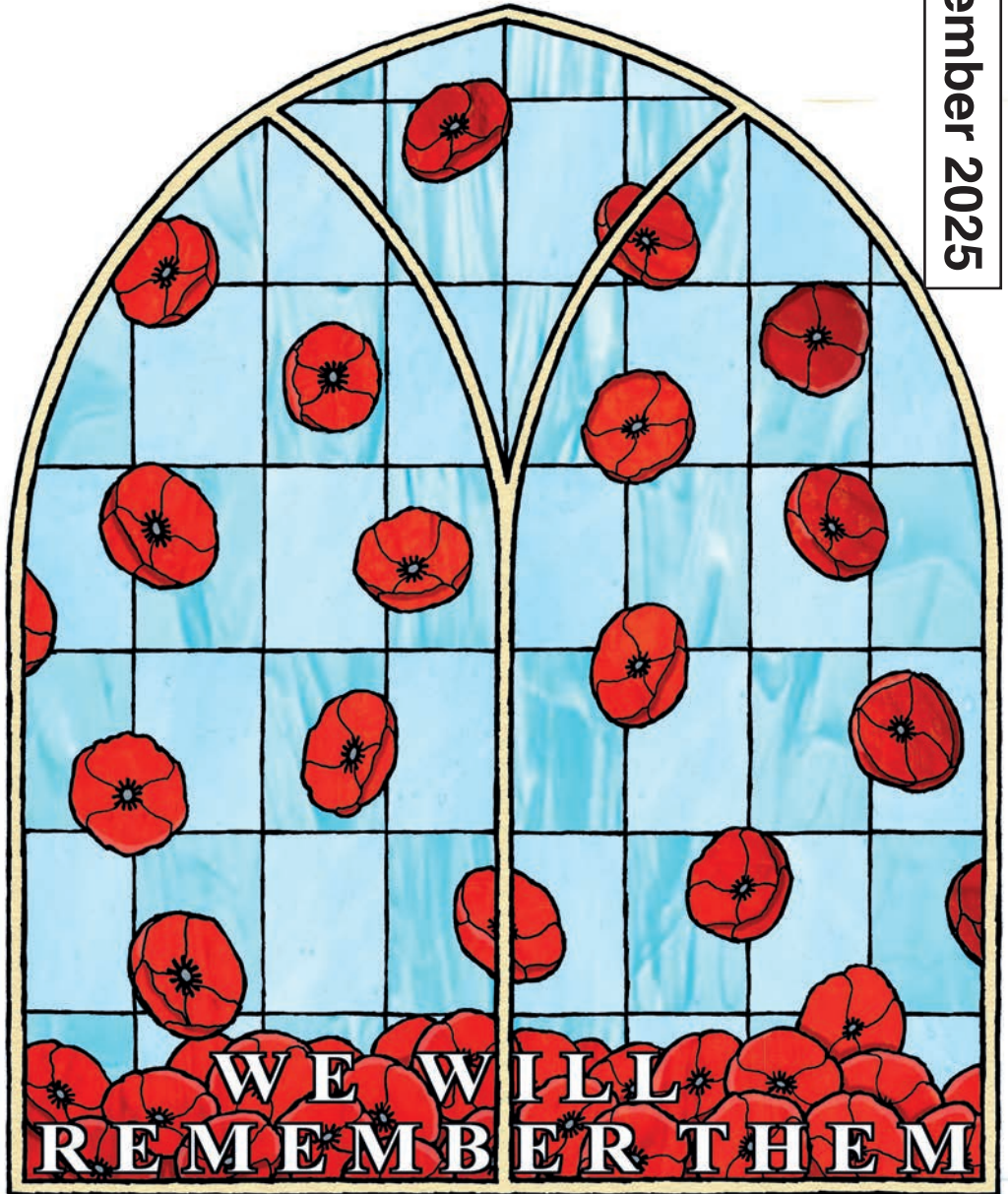


The Herald

50p

November 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

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Keep up to date with events as they happen

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www.facebook.com/ramsdenbellhousechurch

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What's on when and where

Sunday 2 November - All Saints Day

10.00am	St Peter's South Hanningfield	Holy Communion
11.00am	St Margaret's Downham	Family Service
3.00pm	St Margaret's Downham	Thanksgiving & Memorial Service

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

Sunday 9 November - Remembrance Sunday

10.45am	St Margaret's Downham	Act of Remembrance & Sung Eucharist
10.45am	Ramsden Bellhouse Village Hall	Act of Remembrance
12.30pm	St Peter's South Hanningfield	Act of Remembrance

Tuesday 11 November - Armistice Day

10.45am	Ramsden Heath War Memorial	Act of Remembrance
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Sunday 16 November - 2 before Advent

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

Sunday 23 November - Christ the King

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

Note: No service at South Hanningfield

Sunday 30 November - Advent 1

10.00am	St Peter's South Hanningfield	Parish Holy Communion
3.00pm	St Margaret's Downham	Advent film afternoon

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

Sunday 7 December - Advent 2

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

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

Christmas Carol Services

3.00pm on Sunday 14 December at St Peter's South Hanningfield

7.30pm on Thursday 18 December at St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse

3.00pm on Christmas Eve Christingle Service at St Margaret's Downham

St Margaret's Church Christmas Bazaar



To be held in

Downham Village Hall
School Road, Downham CM11 1QN

Saturday
6 December

11.00am to 3.00pm

Stalls, games, refreshments
The place to buy your Christmas gifts



Come and meet
Father Christmas

Forthcoming wedding

In August, the Revd Jacqui announced her engagement to the Revd David Cattle, Vicar of St Michael & All Angels, Galleywood. They have now fixed a date for their wedding. They will be getting married in Chelmsford Cathedral at 1.30pm on Saturday 15 August 2026. Please make a note of the date in your diary. There will be more details nearer the time, but Jacqui and David hope that many people from their six churches will be able to attend their wedding in the Cathedral.

From the ministry team

Peace that the world cannot give

Next to St. Margaret's Church in Downham there is a dovecote. The dovecote itself dates back to the 18th Century. It was built in a field of the neighbouring Downham Farm. In 1991 it was moved, brick by brick, to its current location. Dovecotes were built on farms because doves and pigeons were an important food source. Nowadays, pigeons are generally seen as a bit of a nuisance, but doves (especially white doves) are associated with peace. Doves are sometimes released at funerals and weddings; their white feathers representing peace and love.

Peace, like a small dove, can feel like a vulnerable and fragile thing. As I write this article, a ceasefire has just been agreed in Gaza and there is a lot of relief. Yet there is also caution and concern, as to whether aid will reach those who are in need, whether the ceasefire will last, and who will govern that land if this fragile peace does prevail.

In November we remember the Armistice, when peace was declared at the end of World War 1, and also the great cost of the many lives given in two world wars, and subsequent conflicts, in the cause of peace and justice. We will, in each of our villages, gather around the war memorial, to remember by name those who paid the ultimate price so that we may live in peace. Everyday, Christians around the world pray for peace. We pray for peace in Gaza, in Ukraine, in Sudan, in Yemen ... so many places it can be difficult to remember and name them all. Yet we continue to yearn for and continue to pray for peace.

Peace is something that, as the dovecote was, needs to be built up brick by brick to create something sturdy that will last. It also needs a sure foundation. As a Christian, that sure foundation is, for me, Jesus Christ. When he was talking to his friends, shortly before his own violent death, he said, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.' (John 14.27) He

gave up his life so that I can be forgiven for my wrongdoings. If I am forgiven, I can forgive others, and that is an essential building block for peace.

We may feel there is little we can do to bring about peace in Gaza, or Ukraine, or anywhere else, but we can do two things: We can pray for peace, and for those on the ground working for peace; and we can be people of peace in our own communities. Seeking to be kind, to see the best in others, and to help others when we can.

And so, as I say during every Sunday service: May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

God bless,

The Revd Jacqui

The poppies of Remembrance Sunday

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed. But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.

From the registers

Downham

Burial of ashes

28 September Marie Joan Hills

South Hanningfield

Funeral & Burial

16 October Thomas Henry Loeber

St Margaret's Downham

Harvest Thanksgiving

Thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest Thanksgiving service. You were very generous with your harvest gifts and the Wickford Food Bank sent their thanks for your support.



After the service we enjoyed a three course lunch in the church. Thank you to the team who prepared and served the lunch.

Thanksgiving and Memorial service

We will be holding our annual memorial and thanksgiving service on Sunday 2 November at 3.00pm. This is a simple service where we remember our loved ones who have gone before and we have an opportunity to light a candle in their memory.

Christmas Bazaar

Our Christmas Bazaar will take place on Saturday 6 December in Downham Village Hall. We will have the usual stalls selling jams, cakes and a variety of Christmas gifts. We will be serving light refreshments all day. See page 3 for more details.

The Jam Factory

The Jam Factory will be starting producing for the Christmas Bazaar in the next few weeks. Jean Pavely needs more jam jars and would like some assistance preparing the jams. If you can help please call Jean on 01268 710810 or email her pavely.jr65@gmail.com

Advent film afternoon

At 3.00pm on Sunday 30 November we will be showing two short Christmas films, followed by a time of prayer and reflection. A good way to enter into the hope of Advent!



Rotary Club of Wickford



Race Night

Saturday 8 November

Downham Village Hall

7:00 for 7:30pm start

£5 Per person entry fee

Bring your own Food and Drink

To book a place

Contact 07860 715225

**All funds raised go to Rotary
Foundation Charities**

Essex Association of Change Ringers



Congratulations to Nigel Taylor, one of the bell-ringers at St Margaret's Downham on his appointment as Master of the Essex Association of Change Ringers. Nigel assumed his duties at a dinner held on 11 October and the Revd Jacqui was invited to attend to accept the Master's toast to the Church of England. The Revd Jacqui commented *"It was a lovely evening with a nice meal followed by a beautiful demonstration of hand-bell ringing."*



Downham WI

There were 16 WI members that met at Southend Pier on 9 September to deliver 310 knitted poppies with several metres of green crochet chain.

In all, some 110,471 poppies were knitted country-wide and these will be decorating the 1.33-mile long pier to commemorate Armistice Day. You will be able to see the display from 5 to 16 November. After we had delivered our poppies, to celebrate our achievement, we treated ourselves to a lovely lunch at the Camelia Hotel on the sea front.

The WI had 2 tables of 8 people at the Downham Village Hall Quiz last month and one of our tables came an impressive 2nd missing out by just one point. The Downham membership continues to grow and a further 3 ladies joined this month.

Wendy

Downham Church of England Primary School

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever."

Psalm 136 v1

In October, we celebrated Harvest at Downham Church of England Primary School, with each class participating through the sharing of songs, poetry and Bible readings. What a privilege to have time to reflect on the many blessings we receive daily from friends, family and God. As part of our Harvest Celebration, we collected donations for Billericay Food Bank as a way of sharing our blessings with people in need. In our community, we are also blessed by our local environment and we have been encouraging the children to take time to notice the changes in the seasons as summer gives way to autumn.

As we look ahead to Remembrance Day in November, as a school, we are preparing to remember the sacrifices made by so many people to ensure our safety and freedom. Miss Bailey's Worship Group will be representing our school at the village war memorial, laying a wreath in remembrance of the Fallen. At school, we will also have a time of quiet reflection. This is an important time to remember not only the people who served with such dedication and faithfulness in the World Wars but also the people in our local community today, who continue the work of caring and keeping us safe. Just before half-term, Year 2 had the opportunity to visit Essex Fire Museum, meeting volunteer fire-fighters and learning about their vital work in our community. Paramedics, NHS staff, carers, police and many others all make such important, valuable contributions to our lives and yet they are often taken for granted and almost forgotten until we really need them. At school, we are encouraging the children to be thankful for each person who helps us and to look for ways in which we can actively show our appreciation throughout the year.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6v9

Lynne Boyd

Class Teacher at Downham Church of England Primary School

St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse

Coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support

Thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning on Saturday 27 September. As a result of your generosity we were able to send £311 to MacMillan Cancer Support.

Remembrance Sunday - 9 November

There will be no service in St Mary's on 9 November, but the Revd Jean will be leading a Service of Remembrance in Ramsden Bellhouse Village Hall commencing at 10.45am. We hope you will be able to join us there.

Looking forward to Christmas

We shall be having our service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 7.30pm on Thursday 18 December and on Christmas Eve there will be a service of Holy Communion at 9.30pm.

Community Cuppa & Cake afternoon

Ramsden Heath Village Hall

Dowsetts Lane CM11 1HX

11 November 2.00 to 4.00pm

Where is the time going - nearly Christmas - and I hope you have our Christmas date in your diary which is a week earlier than usual on Tuesday 2 December. Our October meeting was raising money for a local Alzheimers charity yet to be decided. Thank you to all those who came along.

Please come along on 11 November to enjoy a cuppa for 50p and a piece of homemade cake for £1.50.

Ramsden Cupcakes

Ramsden Heath Social Club

Our regular monthly BINGO will be on Friday 7 November at 8.00pm. Just £1.00 to play plus £2.00 for each book you would like to play with. All welcome. FREE tea/coffee/biscuits at the half-time break, but please feel free to bring other drinks/snacks of your own.

On Saturday 15 November at 8.00pm we have LIVE music from THE BAD CADILLACS. Tickets to be purchased in advance, priced at £7.00 for Members, £10.00 for Guests. Playing a mix of rock & indie music from 1970's to present day. Come along & enjoy live music from this local four-piece band playing the likes of The Clash, Green Day, Kaiser Chiefs & Oasis. 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

Ramsden Heath Horticultural & Allotment Society

So the clocks have gone back, it's dark by 5.30pm and the garden has all but gone to sleep. But cheer up, we have lots of events happening to keep you entertained during the winter months.

Our first autumn event was the Harvest Supper, which took place on 2 October. The message was to 'bring and share' and our members certainly did.

The Harvest Supper is a work of cookery art. Members always supply amazing dishes, this year a chilli cottage pie was definitely a winner. It's never organised and no-one knows what others are bringing, but every year we manage to have a mix of savoury and sweet items brought in. Although our numbers were lower this year, a great evening was enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who participated in making the evening a great success.

Future events

On Thursday 6 November our speaker is Marion Scott talking about 'Wickford in Bloom'. Wickford in Bloom is a community volunteer group created in 2019 with the aim of adding colour to the High Street and the town in general through flowers.

Don't forget the mini show, Chrysanthemums, vegetables and pot plants, full details in the Society Schedule. A free raffle ticket will be given to each entrant to the mini show. One person, one ticket. This is the last chance to add points towards the Banksian Medal award.

Plans are now well underway for our annual Christmas Supper on Thursday 4 December. Rita Elcock holds the list of food needed. Please contact Rita if you wish to supply a dish but haven't yet put your name down (remember all expenses can be claimed back, but you will need to supply a receipt). Rita's contact details are:

Telephone: 07946 059878, email: t.elcock@talktalk.net The list will also be available at the November meeting.

St Peter's South Hanningfield

After the excitement of the Flower Festival in September things have quietened down a little. However, at the end of September we were saddened to learn of the death of Tom Loeber of Great Elms Farm, a stalwart of the

village and of the church. The Revd Jean conducted his funeral in St Peter's on 16 October. It was a tribute to his popularity that well over 100 people attended the funeral. There were chairs in every possible space and still some people had to stand. We send our condolences to Betty, his wife of 73 years, and their family and thank those attending for their generous donations towards the upkeep of St Peter's.

Looking Forward to Christmas

We will be holding our annual Carol Service at 3.00pm on Sunday 14 December and on Christmas Eve we have a service of Holy Communion at 9.30pm. Please make a note in your diary. More details in next month's edition of *The Herald*.

South Hanningfield Village Hall

Thank you to everyone who came to our recent **Magic Evening**. We raised a fantastic sum of over £450 which will go to the upkeep of the village hall. There was a mixture of close-up magic, audience participation and mind reading skills from the talented magicians. Thank you to The Mid Essex Magical Society for their participation and giving those who attended a great evening of entertainment. Thank you to those who donated Raffle prizes, and we had a special donation from Talliston House and Gardens with a prize of an Afternoon Tea and Tours for two which was auctioned off during the evening.

Our next event is the **Christmas Fayre** on Saturday, 22 November from 10.30am to 4.00pm. There will be around 40 craft and gift stalls with a wide range of items for sale as festive gifts and handmade crafts such as Wooden items; Usborne books; Fabric crafts; handmade Candles; hair accessories; Stained glass items; Beaded jewellery and accessories; Christmas sweets and gifts; Cakes, bakes and cookies; Gin gift sets; Resin items; Handknitted baby and toddler items; personalised Christmas items; Canal art; Skincare and makeup; local Honey and Christmas decorations. There will also be festive refreshments for sale and a Raffle! Free Entry. For further information, email vallisc@aol.com or phone 07891 653238

Christmas Carols and Brass Band on Sunday, 21 December from 4.00 to 7.00pm in the village hall. Free entry. Refreshments available. For further information, call Clive on 07891 653238.

Christmas decorations Needed for the Hall as Christmas is coming. If anyone has any Christmas decorations they don't need any more, please can you donate them to us and they would be used to decorate the village hall. It would be greatly appreciated.



SOUTH HANNINGFIELD VILLAGE HALL CHRISTMAS CRAFTS & GIFTS FAYRE



**Saturday,
22nd November 2025
10:30am – 4pm**

Free Entry

Over 38 craft and gift stalls including:

Books, Beauty, Canal art, Candles, Cards, Cakes, Chocolates, Clothing, Cocktails, Crochet craft, Flowers, Christmas decorations, Crystals, Homeware gifts, Jewellery, Knitted craft, local honey, local gin, Original paintings, Macrame items, Personalised Christmas items, Sewn crafts, Stain glass items, Sweets, Wooden items, pet gifts, and More!

Raffle & Refreshments available including Mulled Wine



For more information:

Email: vallisc@aol.com Phone: 07891 653238

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

Registered Charity No. 301402



Dates for your Diary in 2026:

South Hanningfield Charity Ball will take place on Saturday, 24 January which includes pre-dinner drinks, 4-course luxury menu, after dinner entertainment and a Raffle at Stock Brook Manor, Billericay in aid of South Hanningfield Village Hall and St Peter's Church charities. For further information, contact Emma on 07961 963914.

St Patrick's Ceilidh we are planning a Ceilidh Dance on Saturday, 14 March, doors will open from 7.00pm. The Yardarm Ceilidh Band will be in attendance, with a caller to show dancers the steps to the music. Tickets cost £8 per person and there will also be a Raffle. For further information and to book, email vallisc@aol.com or phone 07891 653238.

St George's Day We have booked Tom Carradine musical act for Saturday, 25 April, doors will open from 7.00pm. Tickets are £15 each and bring your own drinks and nibbles. There will also be a Raffle! To book, please call Sandra on 07396 546050 or email shvhall@gmail.com

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.

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 date is 18 November.

Regular Activities

Coffee Morning

Second Wednesday of each month from 10.30am to 12.30pm
Wednesday, 12 November.

Pilates & Keep Fit

Monday 9.45 to 10.45am
Thursday 10.30 to 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

Boxfit Personal Trainer

Personal Trainer available from 9.30am during the Tuesday mornings.

For more information, contact Rachael on 07912 344560.

Line Dancing

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

Contact Richard from the Super Troupers Line Dance Club

email thesupertrouperstldc@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 3.00pm £30 for a 45-minute lesson.

Please contact Callie on 07885 630241

Tai Chi Beginner Class

11.45am to 12.45pm Thursdays

Tel Sen 07853 239103 or email senfitness@outlook.com to find out more information.

Yoga and Zumba Thursday night

Zumba 6.30 to 7.20pm and Vinyasa Flow Yoga 7.30 to 8.30pm. Pay as you go. Tel: Charlene on 07772 443028

or email info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk

Upholstery Class

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

****New** Wickford Board Game Club**

Friday evenings from 6.00pm - the club are a friendly mix of players of all ages and experience levels with a huge range of modern board games for those interested to come and try! For more information, contact Mike on 07958 456575 or look up the Wickford Board Game Club on Facebook.

Zumba Saturday mornings

Zumba 9.20 to 10.20am Pay as you go Tel: Charlene on

07772 443028 or email 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 to check availability and prices.

Please continue to support our local village hall 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 November

It was:

175 years ago, on 19 November 1850 that Alfred, Lord Tennyson, became Poet Laureate of the UK (until 1892).

125 years ago, on 22 November 1900 that Arthur Sullivan, British composer, died. Best known for his collaborations with the dramatist W S Gilbert on operas including HMS. Pinafore and The Pirate of Penzance. He also wrote the hymn Onward, Christian Soldiers.

100 years ago, on 10 November 1925 that Richard Burton, Welsh stage and film actor was born. Known for Cleopatra, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? And many more. Fifth and sixth husband of Elizabeth Taylor. Died 1984.

Also 100 years ago, on 27 November 1925 that Ernie Wise, TV comedian and actor, was born. Best known for his comedy partnership with Eric Morecambe (Morecambe and Wise) Died 1999.

90 years ago, on 6 November 1935 that Britain's Hawker Hurricane fighter plane made its first flight. It played a major role in WWII, especially during the Battle of Britain.

80 years ago, on 16 November 1945 that UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, was founded.

75 years ago, on 2 November 1950 that George Bernard Shaw, Irish playwright and literary critic, died. Best known for Pygmalion. Winner of the 1925 Nobel Prize in Literature, and co-founder of the London School of Economics.

65 years ago, on 2 November 1960 that a British jury cleared Penguin Books of obscenity for publishing D.H. Lawrence's novel Lady Chatterley's Lover. This is often considered the beginning of the permissive society in Britain.

Also 65 years ago, on 8 November 1960, that John F Kennedy was elected as the 35th President of the USA.

60 years ago, on 9 November 1965 that the death penalty was abolished in the UK

50 years ago, on 3 November 1975 that Britain's first North Sea oil pipeline was officially opened.

40 years ago, on 15 November 1985 that the Anglo-Irish Agreement was signed by the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Irish President Garret Fitzgerald. It gave the Irish government a consultative role in the affairs of Northern Ireland.

30 years ago, on 20 November 1995 that Princess Diana admitted that she had committed adultery, and spoke openly about her separation from the Prince of Wales in a frank interview with the BBC. In 2021, BBC journalist Martin Bashir was accused of using deception, including fake bank statements, to persuade her to give the interview.

25 years ago, on 9 November 2000 that Eric Morley, TV host, died. Known for establishing the ballroom dancing competition Come Dancing (1949 – 98). It was succeeded by a celebrity version, Strictly Come Dancing, in 2004.

20 years ago, on 30 November 2005 that John Sentamu became Archbishop of York (until 2020). He was the first black archbishop in the Church of England.

10 years ago, on 13 November 2015 that the Paris Attacks took place when suicide bombers and armed terrorists from Islamic State (IS) attacked a football stadium, rock concert, cafés and restaurants. 130 people were killed and 416 injured. IS said the attacks were in retaliation for French air-strikes on IS targets in Syria and Iraq.

For how many minutes can you concentrate?

Most of us can watch television for only about 15 minutes, or read a book for about 14 minutes, before we lose our concentration. Most of us blame our social media notifications as the reason.

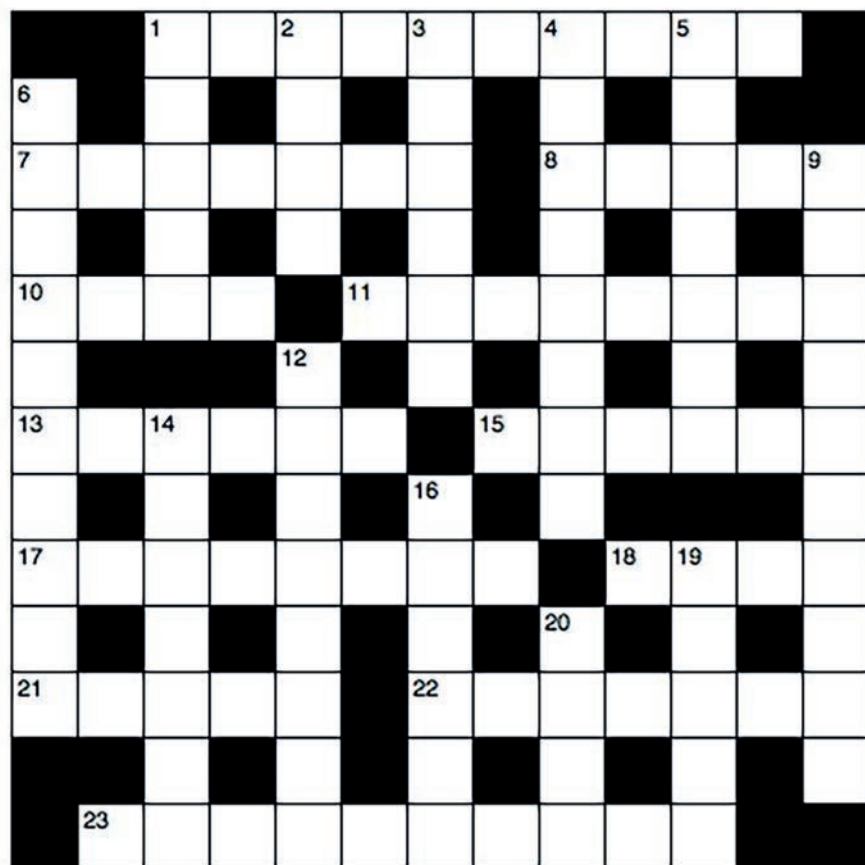
A recent survey by Perspectus Global for Lingo by Abbott, found that Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp and message alerts were named as the main culprits.

Overall, it seems we can focus for only 11 minutes on a virtual work call, or 13 minutes in a face-to-face meeting, or 12 minutes writing a work email.

We even seem to lose concentration at family gatherings, after only 14 minutes. Overall, four in five of us say that we get distracted easily, and that we lose our focus around eight times each day.

What about you? Why not take up the challenge, and 'time' your losses of concentration for a day?

Puzzle corner



Across

- 1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
- 7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
- 8 Relieved (5)
- 10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
- 11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)

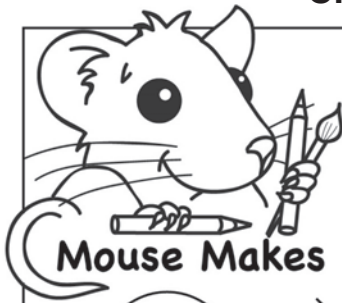
- 13 'It is — for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
- 15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
- 17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)
- 18 and 20 Down
- 'She began to wet his — with her tears. Then she wiped them with her — ' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)
- 21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an — , — the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)
- 22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — — go with you to prison and to death"' (Luke 22:33) (5,2)
- 23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

Down

- 1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)
- 2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)
- 3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)
- 4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)
- 5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)
- 6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)
- 9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their — to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)
- 12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)
- 14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)
- 16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)
- 19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)
- 20 See 18 Across

Answers on page 33

Children's pages



LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November.
ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour.
We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



Read:
LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



Read:
John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



Read:
Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read:
Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 7:7-11, Luke 11:5-13

To teach about praying, and God's good gifts, Jesus told this story - 'If you have a visitor arrive in the middle of the night..'

Oh no! I have no bread to feed him! I am so ashamed! What can I do?... I know!



'You would go round to a friend's house.'



I really, really need some bread for a visitor.



I need that bread!



Jesus concluded...

So keep on asking and it will be given, seeking and you will find, knocking and it will be opened... And parents, if your hungry child asks for bread,



'...would you give them a stone?'



'And if they asked for a fish...'



'...would you give them a snake?'



'Or if they asked for an egg...'



'you'd give a scorpion?'



If you, who aren't perfect parents, give good gifts to your children, then don't you think that gifts from your perfect Father, God, will be even better?





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Smile lines

Morning

There are two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

Dry

My minister friend put hot-air hand dryers in the toilets at his church and after two weeks, took them out. I asked him why and he confessed that they worked fine, but someone had scribbled on the dryer: "For a sample of this week's sermon, push the button."

Hear, hear

A very deaf elderly man was finally fitted out with a hearing aid that really worked. A month later his doctor called him in for a check-up. "Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

Where there's smoke...

At our church, it was common for the minister to invite the children to the front of the church and have a small lesson before beginning the sermon. He would often bring in a household item, and then relate it to a teaching from the Bible.

One morning, the visual aid for his lesson was a smoke detector. He asked the children if anyone knew what it meant when an alarm sounded from the smoke detector.

My young son immediately raised his hand. "It means Daddy's cooking dinner."

Bible knowledge

A minister was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I finally figured out what the Bible means!" The minister thought of his extensive theological library and smiled indulgently. He asked his young son what he thought the Bible meant.

"It's easy, Daddy," the boy replied. "It means: 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

Duck

I have a severe nonlinear waterfowl issue. (I don't have all my ducks in a row.)

Contacting The Herald

Contributions to the December edition

Copy for the next edition of The Herald should be sent by email to Robert Andrews at theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk by **Thursday 20 November**. 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.

Advertising in The Herald

All general enquiries about advertising should be addressed to Mike Roome on 07770 795388 or email advert.theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk

Advertising rates are currently:

Full page	£100 for 12 insertions
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Answers to the Crossword puzzle

ACROSS: 1, Jehoiachin. 7, Endured. 8, Eased. 10, Rash. 11, Startled. 13, Easier. 15, Rubric. 17, Impurity. 18, Feet. 21, Eye at. 22, Ready to. 23, Holy Spirit.

DOWN: 1, Judas. 2, Harm. 3, Is duty. 4, Cheerful. 5, Insular. 6, Jezreelite. 9, Dedication. 12, Secretly. 14, Supremo. 16, Stir up. 19, Egypt. 20, Hair.

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