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Church and Community News



September
2026

The monthly magazine of
St Blasius Old Parish Church

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Meetings with a speaker and archive display are held at the Falcon Cross Hall (next door to the library) on the first Thursday of the month at 7.25

Visitors are welcome

For details of talks and other events please see our website
shanklinhistory.net



CAN YOU HELP US by adding an item from our most needed items in your nearest supermarket collection basket?



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rebecca@embracingage.org.uk or Tel. No 07419338066



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St. Blasius Old Parish Church

Magazine

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL
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TOGETHER**

— CHURCH SERVICES —

We warmly invite you to join us - See details on Page 3

For enquiries relating to Banns and Marriage services, Baptisms and Funerals
please contact: Revd. Karen Crowhurst (details below)

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Electoral Roll Secretary:	Mrs Annette Richards	Tel: 863607
Children's Society:	Mrs. Charlotte Coppin	Tel: 07724 852024

Cost of Magazine: £1.00 DONATION

St Blasius Old Parish Church, Church Road, Shanklin, PO37 6QY

website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16793/



Thought for the Month

Here am I... Send me!

I always like to link my musings to something seasonal. September is notable for several important events over the course of history, including the outbreak of the Second World War on 3rd September 1939. But September was also the month when the Great Fire of London occurred. The fire raged from 2nd to 5th September 1666, destroying around 13,000 buildings (which were almost all made of wood) by the time it was eventually contained.

The fire started in the late evening of 1st September at a bakery in Pudding Lane, near what is now Monument tube station. A baker, Thomas Farriner, finished work and went to bed, leaving smouldering embers in his oven. Unfortunately he left some kindling too close to the coals – the kindling caught fire and....well, the rest is literally history.

What this shows is the immense impact that the actions (whether intentional or unintentional) of a single person can have, either for the bad or for the good. In the same way that a tiny spark in a bakery started a great fire, so even the smallest of our actions can make a huge difference to our world.

An example from scripture is the well-known story of the boy with the five loaves and two fishes. The simple fact that he was willing to share the little food he had, meant that five thousand people were fed.

The Welsh Revival of 1904–1905, associated most strongly with Evan Roberts, is one of the most remarkable spiritual movements in modern British history. It began quietly, spread rapidly, and transformed Welsh society in ways that were reported daily in national newspapers.

Evan Roberts was a shy young man who worked as a coal miner and later as a blacksmith's apprentice. He was known for intense prayer, sometimes spending hours each week seeking God. He had



prayed for thirteen years for revival in Wales. He reported visions of “all Wales being lifted up to Heaven” and asked his roommate whether God could give 100,000 souls.

In 1904–05, churches overflowed, crime dropped, and communities were transformed – around 100,000 people came to faith in Wales. It really showed that one person’s prayer can ignite a nation. A very different type of fire from the one started in the bakery in Pudding Lane.

The message here for us is that we can all make a difference. We can all, through our prayers and actions, help God’s kingdom to grow in the community where we live. Even through the small things we do. The prophet Isaiah writes in chapter 6:8 – “‘Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I. Send me!’”. I invite you to make this your prayer during September. Let us all be willing to hear and respond to God’s call.

Reverend Karen Crowhurst

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me;
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

From the hymn by Daniel L. Schutte

Articles for the Magazine are always welcome!

We are always pleased to include poems or articles written by a readers of the magazine. Have you read a good book, or been to an interesting place or event and would like to share your experience with others? The editor would be very happy to receive written contributions by email: editor.shanklinchimes@gmail.com

If you are not online, we can accept paper copies - telephone the editor to arrange this on: (01983)884529



OUR CHURCH SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER



*You are warmly invited to join us for
our Sunday Worship
at 10.15am unless otherwise stated*



Sunday 6th September - Fourteenth after Trinity

Holy Communion

Reverend Barry Downer

Sunday 13th September - Fifteenth after Trinity

Matins

Reverend Karen Crowhurst

Sunday 20th September - Sixteenth after Trinity

Holy Communion

Reverend Karen Crowhurst

Sunday 27th September - Seventeenth after Trinity

Holy Communion

Reverend Tony Richards

PRAYERS FOR THE MONTH

*The Sunday and Special Collects for this month
(with endings omitted)*

6th September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth...

13th September – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service...

20th September – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear
the prayers of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them...

27th September – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face...

FESTIVALS IN SEPTEMBER

From the Church of England Calendar

1 Giles of Provence, Hermit, c.710

2 The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 and 1942

3 Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith, 604

4 Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester (Oxon), Apostle of Wessex, 650

8 The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9 Charles Fuge Lowder, Priest, 1880

13 John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the Faith, 407

14 Holy Cross Day

15 Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258

16 Ninian, Bishop of Galloway, Apostle of the Picts, c.432

16 Edward Bouverie Pusey, Priest, Tractarian, 1882

17 Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, 1179

19 Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690

**20 John Coleridge Patteson, First Bishop of Melanesia,
and his Companions, Martyrs, 1871**

21 Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

25 Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, Spiritual Writer, 1626

25 Sergei of Radonezh, Russian Monastic Reformer, Teacher of the Faith, 1392

26 Wilson Carlile, Founder of the Church Army, 1942

**27 Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Congregation of the Mission
(Lazarists), 1660**

29 Michael and All Angels

30 Jerome, Translator of the Scriptures, Teacher of the Faith, 420

The Festival of Creation in Christ

The Church of England has created new worship material for this new Festival, assigned to the first Sunday in September each year. This is one of the fruits of a growing ecumenical movement across churches worldwide and offers an opportunity for Christians to give thanks for God's creation and redemption of the world, to reflect on humanity's responsibility to care for the natural world and to pray for its renewal. The title 'Creation in Christ' emphasises that creation is understood through the person and work of Jesus Christ: created through him, sustained in him and destined for renewal in him. Creationtide begins on the 1st September and ends on 4th October, the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi.



SUMMERTIME COFFEE MORNINGS

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7th September

Copy Deadline for the October Magazine - 16th September

A Good Yarn

Monday 21st September at 10.00am

**Come and join our informal and friendly monthly
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Refreshments will be available.

From beginners to experts everyone is welcome.

**Just bring along your knitting,⁸ crochet or needlework, no need
to book a place. Come and meet new people or old friends
and take time out to relax and enjoy a chat, learn new hints
and tips or get started on that new hobby.**

We look forward to seeing you there.



The Isle of Wight Walking Festival

This autumn, discover the truth of the Island's motto:

'All this beauty if of God'

Go to the Walking Festival website for a list of all the walks available and to book your place:

isleofwightwalkingfestival.co.uk

The gentlest, suitable for those with limited mobility, is being run by Julie from Shanklin URC. ***The Lost Crypt Walk*** is a history stroll around Ryde, costing £5 per person, with every penny going to Aspire Ryde.

Pre-booking is essential:-

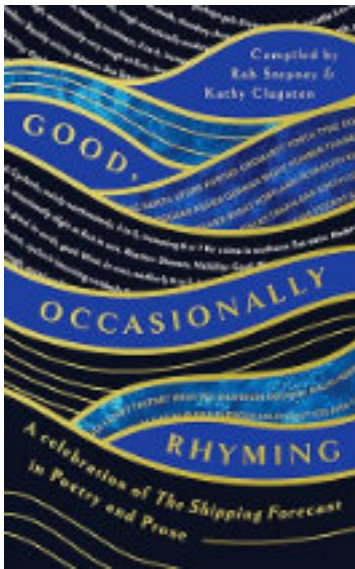
Tuesday 6th October, 3.00 pm

Wednesday 7th October, 5.30 pm

Friday 9th October, 3.00 pm

Saturday 10th October, 10.00 am

Book Review



Title: Good, Occasionally Rhyming:
A celebration of the Shipping Forecast
in Poetry and Prose

Author: Kathy Clugston Stepney

Publisher: Canelo

ISBN: 9781835983300

This book is a lovely collection of selected poetry and writing all about The Shipping Forecast and produced to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first BBC Broadcast. It was first broadcast on BBC Radio on 4 July 1925.

Kathy Clugston is a well-known voice on Radio 4. Kathy chairs the long-running radio programme *Gardeners' Question Time* on BBC Radio 4. Before this, she was a continuity announcer for many years, often reading The Shipping Forecast.

No one can quite explain why listening to The Shipping Forecast has become such a British tradition. As well as providing vital information, many people find the rhythm of the words and the familiar place names comforting to listen to late at night

"And now, the Shipping Forecast issued by the Met Office. . .

There are thirty-one strange sounding areas, *Forties, Dogger, German Bight, Humber, Thames, Dover, Wight* starting between the Shetlands and Norway and down the North Sea, westwards along the English Channel, sailing by the coast of France, Spain and Portugal, up both sides of Ireland, on to Scotland and as far as north as Iceland.

"Since its first BBC broadcast in 1925, the Shipping Forecast has captured the nation's heart. *Good, Occasionally Rhyming* is a love letter in poetry and prose, from Britain's literary landscape to this iconic radio broadcast.

That's the end of this shipping bulletin."



In May this year, Sir David Attenborough celebrated his 100th birthday. Sir David has done more than many to explore and record the diversity of creation. He was first knighted by the Queen in 1985 and in 2022 he received a second knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours, having been appointed a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George - in recognition of his widely acclaimed documentaries about the natural world and his campaigning to save it. His words have inspired millions of people to care for our planet. Here are some quotations gathered together from his documentaries and talks throughout his life.

"The truth is: the natural world is changing. And we are totally dependent on that world. It provides our food, water, and air. It is the most precious thing we have and we need to defend it. The natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living.

We need to work with nature, not against it. To restore stability to our planet, therefore, we must restore its biodiversity, the very thing we have removed. It is the only way out of this crisis that we ourselves have created. We must re-wild the world!

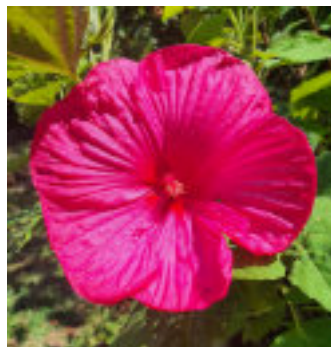
The fact is that no species has ever had such wholesale control over everything on Earth, living or dead, as we now have. That lays upon us, whether we like it or not, an awesome responsibility. In our hands now lies not only our own future, but that of all other living creatures with whom we share the Earth.

As a species, we are expert problem solvers. But we haven't yet applied ourselves to this problem with the focus it requires.

It's surely our responsibility to do everything within our power to create a planet that provides a home not just for us, but for all life on Earth."



Eco Tips for September



At last, in mid-August, most places on the Isle of Wight had at least a shower of rain. Sadly, it could be that a very hot dry summer is going to happen more frequently. Some of our traditional planting schemes may need to be adjusted so that plants are not regularly dying each summer.

The RHS have some helpful tips on how to adapt your garden.

- Mulches can be very valuable in helping plants survive a drought, because they help to retain moisture in the soil. Mulches can be garden compost, leaf mould, wood chippings, seaweed, or well-rotted manure laid over the surface of soil.
- Biodegradable mulches break down gradually and slowly release nutrients into the soil, increasing fertility and help improve its structure.
- Non-Biodegradable mulches do not improve the soil but they are helpful in both conserving moisture and suppressing weed growth. Some slate, shingle, gravel and stone chippings can also be used to look decorative

- Mulches can help to protect plant roots from both extreme hot and cold temperatures. Mulches can be put onto bare soil or used to cover the surface of compost in containers.
- Another helpful tip is to plant small specimens of each plant. At first this may not seem sensible but smaller plants will become used to their growing environment gradually as they develop.
- Adding organic matter to the soil before planting can help to improve both water availability and drainage.
- Avoid adding fertiliser to plants that will be growing in dry conditions, because this can encourage too much lush growth. This additional growth has a tendency to flop in summer, then needing extra water require extra water and can become vulnerable to frost damage in the winter.
- Choose plants carefully when deciding on future plating ideas. The RHS have a list of drought resistant plants suitable for different soil types:



www.rhs.org.uk/plants/search-results?query=viburnum

www.rhs.org.uk/garden-design/drought-resistant-gardening

Regardless of soil type:

Trees, shrubs and perennials – If chosen for their suitability to the conditions in your garden, they will not need water during summer.

Lawns – Established lawns rarely need watering. Even if they turn completely brown in summer, once it rains, they will green up again.

Lawn alternatives – Such as clover, thyme and wildflowers, reduce or eliminate the need for watering and improve biodiversity.



Psalm 8

A Celebration of God's love in Creation

O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

²Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

³When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

⁴What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

⁵For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

⁶Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

⁷All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

⁸The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

⁹O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

Text: From the Kings James version of the Bible

News from the Mothers' Union at St Blasius

Joining with members from the Sandown branch of Mothers' Union, we enjoyed a delicious lunch at Quarr Abbey on a very warm and sunny day in July. After lunch we browsed through the book shop and gift shop and then went in search of the Abbey's pig family. We discovered mother pig lolling in the dry soil with ten dusty piglets scampering around for her attention.

A Strawberry Cream Tea is planned for August to help raise much-needed funds for our local branch. Later in September, we shall be welcoming Ian Coombs from the Children's Society who will tell us about the work the society are engaged in to support and empower young people to make a positive change in their lives.

This year on the 10 June, the MU celebrated its 150th anniversary of the launch of the movement with a service at St Paul's Cathedral. Over 1,500 MU members gathered for the largest Eucharist ever held at St Paul's, with members attending from across the world. The Archbishop of Canterbury and Patron of the MU, the most Rev and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally preached at the service reflecting both the legacy of the movement's initiator, Mary Sumner, and the continued relevance of the movement today. Island branches will join together for a special 150th Anniversary Service of Holy Communion in Newport Minster at 11.00am, on Saturday 5th September. All are welcome.

If you would like to know more about the work and history of the Mothers' Union, go to www.mothersunion.org or Wikipedia. You may wish to come to one of our meetings, if so, please contact Suzanne Cook on 07484 714892. We are always happy to welcome new members.

Suzanne V Cook, Branch Leader



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FIND AN ALZHEIMER CAFÉ near you

An Alzheimer Café is a meeting place that gives informal education and advice about dementia and offers guidance and signposting to other services. We welcome people with dementia, their families, carers, professionals, and people with an interest in dementia.

EAST COWES

1st Tuesday of the month
2pm - 4pm
Town Hall, York Avenue
East Cowes
PO32 6RU

COWES

2nd Weds of the month
2pm - 4pm
Football Club
Reynolds Close
(off Park Road)
PO31 7NT

TOTLAND

3rd Weds of the month
2pm - 4pm
St Saviour's
Holy Family Centre
Weston Lane
Totland
PO39 0HE

SANDOWN

4th Weds of the month
2pm - 4pm
The Broadway Centre
1 Broadway, Sandown
PO36 9GG



ACE7 (under 65s)

1st & 3rd Tues of the month
10am - 12pm
Castlehold Baptist
Church Hall
High Street, Newport
PO30 1BH

🌐 www.alzheimercafeiow.org.uk
✉ info@alzheimercafeiow.org.uk
📞 01983 220200

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