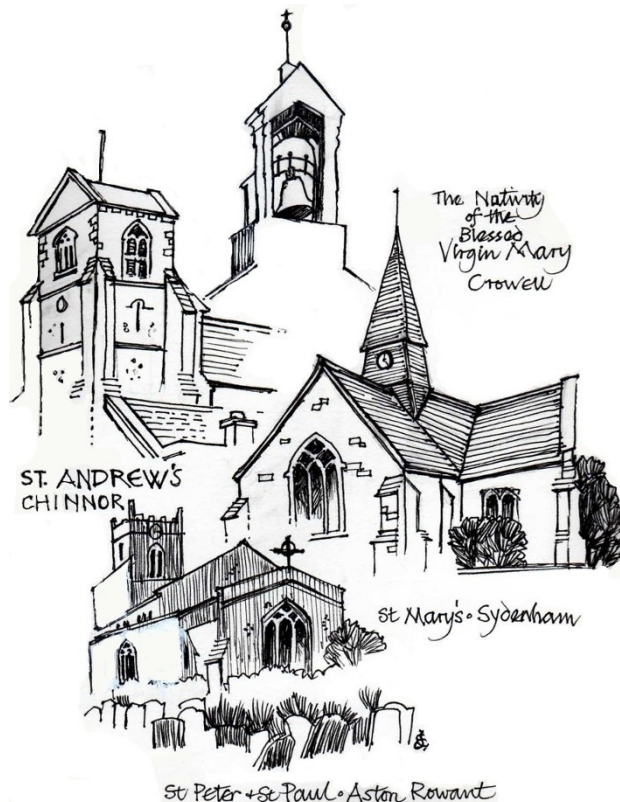




THE UNITED PARISH MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2026

The United Parish of Chinnor, Sydenham, Aston Rowant & Crowell





The United Parish Ministry Team

Rector

Rev'd Dr. Jacky Barr
 rector@unitedparish.church

07769 825305
 01844 352027

Associate Priest

Rev'd Joan DeVal

01844 353404

Licenced Lay Minister (L.L.M)

Margaret Poole

01844 281042

Retired Priests

Rev'd Dr. Brian Griffiths

01844 355953

Rev'd Tony Whitaker

01844 761267

Children's Minister

Fiona Ludlow

childrenswork@unitedparish.church

Useful United Parish Contacts

Parish Office

Tricia Prescott
 office@unitedparish.church

01844 352472

St Andrew's Church Hall

Tricia Prescott
 office@unitedparish.church

01844 352472

Booking link: <https://e-voice.org.uk/standrewschurchhall/>

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Jane Tucker
 safeguarding@unitedparish.church

07890 346781

Drawing on the front cover - The 'United Parish' - Jean Stanley

To make a donation, please see page 39

Sept 2026	TIME	CHURCH	SERVICE	LED BY
Sunday 6th Sept Trinity 14	8am	St Andrew's, Chinnor	Holy Communion (No hymns)	Jacky
	9am	Aston Rowant	Morning Prayer	Margaret
	1030am	St Andrew's Chinnor	Holy Communion	Jacky
	6pm	St Andrew's Chinnor	Taizé	Tony and Monica
Sunday 13th Sept Trinity 15	9am	Aston Rowant	Holy Communion	Jacky
	1030am	St Andrew's, Chinnor	All Age Worship	Margaret + Shane
	1030 am	Sydenham	BCP Holy Communion	Joan
	6pm	Crowell	Harvest Supper With hymns	Jacky
Sunday 20th Sept Trinity 16	9am	Aston Rowant	Morning Prayer	Aston Team
	1030am	St Andrew's, Chinnor	Holy Communion	Jacky
	6pm	Sydenham	BCP Evensong	Jacky
Sunday 27th Sept Trinity 17	9am	Aston Rowant	Holy Communion	Tony
	1030am	St Andrew's Chinnor	Harvest Festival With Methodists joining us. Not Holy Communion	Jacky
	6pm	Crowell	Evening Prayer With Holy Communion (no hymns)	Jacky

October 2026	TIME	CHURCH	SERVICE	LED BY
Sunday 4th Oct Trinity 18	8am	St Andrew's, Chinnor	Holy Communion (No hymns)	Jacky
	9am	Aston Rowant	Harvest service	Margaret
	1030 am	St Andrew's Chinnor	Holy Communion	Jacky
	6pm	St Andrew's Chinnor	Taizé	Tony and Monica
Sunday 11th Oct Trinity 19	9am	Aston Rowant	Holy Communion	Tony
	1030 am	St Andrew's, Chinnor	Green Worship CCGW!	Margaret and Jo
	1030	Sydenham	Harvest Service	Joan and Sydenham Team
	6pm	Crowell	Holy Communion	Jacky
Sunday 18th Trinity 20	1030 am	UNITED PARISH SERVICE St Andrew's, Chinnor	Holy Communion	Jacky and Ministry team
Sunday 25th	9am	Aston Rowant	Morning Prayer	tbc
	1030	St Andrew's	Holy	tbc
	6pm	Crowell	Evening Prayer	tbc
Saturday 31st Oct	4pm	St Andrew's	Commemoration Of the Departed	Ministry Team

Readings September and October

Sunday 6th Sept Trinity 14	Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149:1-9 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20
Sunday 13th sept Trinity 15	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114:1-8 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35
Sunday 20th Sept Trinity 16	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16
Sunday 27th Sept Trinity 17	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78: 1-7 Phil 2:1-13 Matthew 21: 23-32
HARVEST SERVICES	Deuteronomy 8: 7-18 Psalm 65 2 Cor 9: 9-15 Luke 12:16-30

Sunday 4th October Trinity 18	Exodus:1-4,7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46
Sunday 11th October Trinity 19	Exodus 32: 1-14 Psalm 106:1-6 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14
Sunday 18th October Trinity 20	Exodus 33:12- end Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22
Sunday 25th October Last Sunday After Trinity	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90:1-6 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-end

Pastoral letter

Margaret Writes

It's mid -August as I write this pastoral letter for the September magazine and already, after a very long hot Summer, we have started to notice the days beginning to slowly draw in and getting cooler.

These past few months have been a challenge to us all trying to cope with the extreme heat. Being truly British, I could say that we are never really satisfied with the weather, its either too hot, too cold, too windy, too still, too wet or too dry.

Yet as I write I was reminded of a profound and timeless truth in the Bible passage from, Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8: *"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven,"* words which were written many centuries ago. These words still speak to us today with the rhythm of life- the ebb and the flow of joy and sorrow, planting and harvesting, beginnings and endings. They remind us that life is not randomly sequenced, but a divinely ordered journey, marked by seasons that God himself has appointed. Life is not static. God in his wisdom, has woven time into a tapestry of seasons, each with its own purpose. Some seasons bring laughter, others tears. Some call us to build, others to let go. Yet in all of them God remains constant- our unchanging anchor in our ever- changing, fast moving and hurting world.

Perhaps you find yourself in a season of waiting, wondering when the next chapter will unfold. Or maybe you are in a time of abundance, where blessings overflow. Or perhaps it is the opposite for you now, as you try to make ends meet in these difficult times of the cost-of-living crisis.



There are also seasons of letting go – times when God calls us to release something or someone, we hold dear. These moments are painful, yet they are often the soil in which new growth begins. Just as Autumn's falling leaves make way for Spring blossoms, so to do endings prepare the way for new beginnings.

Our calling as followers of Christ is not to rush through the difficult times or cling too tightly to the joyful ones, but to walk faithfully in each moment, trusting that the one who holds time holds us. We are invited to live fully in the present, to seek God's presence in every circumstance, and believe that He makes all things beautiful in his time.

So let us all embrace the season that we are in. Let us lean into God's wisdom, rest in his sovereignty, and trust his perfect timing. Whether we are sowing or reaping, weeping or rejoicing, building or releasing, may we do so with hearts anchored in the unchanging love of Christ.

With love, prayer and the assurance of God's faithfulness,
Margaret

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 ('The voice' translation)

*For everything that happens in life-there is a season,
a right time for everything under the heaven:
a time to be born, a time to die;
a time to plant, a time to collect the harvest;
a time to kill, a time to heal;
a time to tear down, a time to buildup;
a time to cry; a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, a time to dance;
a time to scatter stones, a time to pile them up;
a time for a warm embrace, a time for keeping your distance;
a time to search, a time to give up as lost;
a time to keep, a time to throw out;
a time to tear apart, a time to build together;
a time to be quiet, a time to speak up;
a time to love, a time to hate;
a time to go to war, a time to make peace.*

PRAYERS



*Prayer is God listening to the whispers of the World'.
This quote came from a child at St Andrew's School*



Please pray for:	Baptisms	For those who mourn for:
Bev Gillian Brian Dorothy Amelia Terry Joan Bob Karen Paul Sue Margaret	Aston Rowant 6th Sept Freddie St Andrew's 13th Sept Arlo 20th Sept Elara	Jean Stanley Sylvia Guntrip

Parish Prayer Link



If you would like prayers offered for yourself, someone you know or a situation you are aware of, please do let us know by contacting Tricia in the Parish Office by email at office@unitedparish.church or by phone on 01844 352472

Your request will be handled with utmost sensitivity and discretion.

And if you would like to become one of the prayer link members then please get in touch with Jacky.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

@ St Andrew's Church Chinnor

All those who care for children are **very welcome** to attend these free of charge sessions!

Chooseday Church

A fun, activity filled afterschool church session.
Craft activities, Bible stories, action songs and



Starboddlers

A fun and action packed session for babies, toddlers and their carers. We use actions to tell Bible stories, we sing songs (we are sure Mr Cow will be a firm favourite again), we say a prayer, we ring the church bell. It's a friendly welcoming space to meet other families.



<i>Chooseday Church</i> <i>Tuesday afterschool</i> <i>3.15 - 4.15pm</i>	<i>Starboddlers</i> <i>Thursday</i> <i>11 - 11.45am</i>
	Sept 3rd
	Sept 10th
Sept 15th	Sept 17th
Sept 22nd	Sept 24th
Sept 29th	Oct 1st
Oct 6th	Oct 8th
Oct 13th	Oct 15th
	Oct 22nd
HALF	TERM
	Nov 5th
Nov 10th	Nov 12th
Nov 17th	Nov 19th
Nov 24th	Nov 26th
Dec 1st	Dec 3rd
Dec 8th	Dec 10th
	Dec 17th

THE EXTRAS

HOLY COMMUNION

Every Thursday, 10am, St Andrew's Chinnor

Streamlined service no hymns, short reflection,

Followed by refreshments, always with the Good Biscuits!



PARISH ZOOM MEETING

First Monday of the Month, 5pm



ONLINE: Prayer, Bible study, fellowship and chatting.

Zoom meeting ID= **879 0063 5431** Passcode= 427771

Next meetings 7th September, 5th October

TAIZÉ

First Sunday of the month, 6pm at St Andrew's Chinnor

Taizé prayer service is a gentle soothing candlelit time of prayer, silence, readings and chanting.

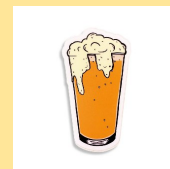


Next Services 6th September, 4th October

MEN'S GROUP

A social group, meeting at The Crown pub in Chinnor on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm. The Rector buys your first drink!

Next meetings: 1st September, 6th October



Promoting a safer church

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church

House of Bishops
Safeguarding Policy
for children, young people & adults

IF YOU ARE CONCERNED

that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from a Safeguarding Adviser or if necessary report the matter to the Local Authority Social Care Services or the Police without delay.

Local contacts available to speak to if you have any concerns:

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Jane Tucker
07890 346 781
safeguarding@unitedparish.church

Rector to the United Parish

Rev'd Jacky Barr
07769 825 305
rector@unitedparish.church

Safeguarding Advisor (Oxford Diocese)

Erica Hegg
07341 866 832
safeguardingreferrals@oxford.anglican.org

Local Authority Social Services

Oxfordshire County Council
Social and Health Care Team
PO Box 780
Oxford OX1 9GX
0345 050 7666 (option 2)
Opening times
Mon- Thurs 830am -5pm
Fri 830am -4pm

**IF THERE IS IMMEDIATE RISK OR DANGER
PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE ON 999.**

OUR COMMITMENTS

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk.

HELPLINES

- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
- Childline: 0800 1111
- Stop It Now: 0808 1000 900
- NAPAC: 0808 801 0331
- Samaritans: 116 123
- Family Lives: 0808 800 2222
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247
- Respect Phoneline: 0808 8010 327
- National Careline: 0800 0699 784

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding

HARVEST FESTIVAL



**The United Parish of Chinnor,
Sydenham, Aston Rowant and
Crowell**



TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING SERVICES:

Sunday 13th September 6:00 pm Harvest Supper: Crowell
(All welcome, ploughmans supper, bring your own drinks)

Saturday 26th September 6:30 pm Harvest Supper

St Andrew's Church

(see poster for more details)

Sunday 27th September 10:30 am St Andrew's Church with
Methodist Church

Sunday 4th October 9:00 am Aston Rowant Service

Tuesday 6th October 12:30am to 2:30 pm

Harvest Lunch : Aston Rowant

Sunday 11th October 10:30 am Sydenham Harvest Service

*If you are able, please bring
non-perishable goods to these
services that will be donated to
the Sharing Life Trust (our local
food bank) and The Porch (a
homeless charity in Oxford)*



To make a donation, please see page 39

Website: <http://achurchnearyou.com/Chinnor-Sydenham-Aston-Rowant-Crowell-United-Parish>

FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

HARVEST SUPPER

IN

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
SATURDAY

26th SEPTEMBER

6.30 for 7.00 pm

2 COURSES £25

incl GLASS OF WINE

TEA/COFFEE

BYO DRINKS

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

To reserve your table please contact

Lauretta on 07843 938 748 or

e-mail lauretta@milligan.me.uk

Fundraising towards the ongoing care and maintenance
of St Andrew's Church

To make a donation, please see page 39

13

Website: <http://achurchnearyou.com/Chinnor-Sydenham-Aston-Rowant-Crowell-United-Parish>

HARVEST LUNCH

on

Tuesday 6 October, 2026

12.30 - 2.30pm

at

Aston Rowant Church



(Ploughman's lunch will be provided)

COFFEE MORNING

Friday 18 September 2026

10am to 11.30am

Chinnor Village Centre

High Street, OX39 4DJ

Gifts and a Raffle

in aid of

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes



P.C.C MINUTES FROM 8TH July 2026

Welcome: Revd Dr Jacky Barr followed by a Bible Reading.

Apologies: Received and Recorded.

Minutes: Minutes from 3rd May 2026. Read and Approved.

Correspondence: None Received.

Warden's Reports: Read and Discussed.

Children's Work: All going well.

Safeguarding: No current investigations or queries.

DBS Report: Nothing to report.

Friends of St Andrew's: Lots of fundraising events booked. Look out for posters or Magazine items.

Deanery Synod: No items to report.

G.D.P.R: No items to report.

Health & Safety Officer: Vacant at Present.

Parish Proposals: St Andrew's, Chinnor:

To engage Creative Memorials to repair two memorials in St Andrew's Churchyard.

Proposed: Laretta Milligan. Seconded: Robert Pegg. Passed Unanimously.

To engage Royal Homes to install a resin pathway and ramp to the North Door.

Proposed: Laretta Milligan. Seconded: Robert Pegg. Passed Unanimously.

To engage 24-7 to repair damp proofing and redecoration in St Andrew's Toilet area

Proposed: Laretta Milligan. Seconded: Robert Pegg. Passed Unanimously.

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Crowell

Cleaning of Windows, inside and out, clearing gutters and drainpipes plus repairs.

To engage Mathew Powell to provide this service.

Proposed: Andrew Warman. Seconded: Margaret Warman.

To engage Heritage Building Conservation to repair flint wall on west gable buttress.

Remove a dead tree from B4009 on car park edge. A smaller dead tree on B4009 Bank.

Proposed: Andrew Warman. Seconded: Margaret Warman.

United Parish P.C.C Policies:

Proposal to accept all previous policies. Reviewed and Agreed.

List of Sides persons and Servers:

Proposed: Mark Prescott. Seconded: Tricia Prescott.

Meeting closed with "The Grace".

Maggs Warman

EULOGY FOR JOHN WYATT

Legendary Churchwarden of Aston Rowant

From John's wife, Tessa:



If I was going to write a biography of John's life it would probably go to 500 pages. Lucky for you lot I boiled it down to four. John was a cinematographer, stills photographer, cameraman, film director, nature lover, inventor, traveller, cook, opera lover, horse rider, churchwarden, parish councillor and even a midwife.

His life began in Manchester in 1940, born to Jack and Ruby Wyatt. John's sisters were much older, so it was a bit like having multiple mothers. Jack loved birds, and John soon caught the bug for birdwatching. He and his Dad spent a lot of time ringing them to study bird migration.

Despite not liking them, weirdly Jack grew tomatoes in his greenhouse. John did and I believe John's ability to make absolutely delicious passata was rooted in that greenhouse. He truly loved cooking and could just as easily have become a professional chef as a cinematographer.

From school, John won a scholarship to the London School of Photography, where he earned his BSc, which led to a job at the BBC.

John married Sue in 1961, and soon Rawdon came along, followed by Trista. It was a dark and stormy night when Sue went into labour with Trista at home, and John became a midwife. The actual midwife couldn't get her bicycle through the snow, so John delivered his daughter on his own, following instructions from the poor woman from a phone box: "Boil a kettle, get some clean towels, don't panic!" Trista arrived safe and sound about five minutes before the midwife.

Sadly, as John's career took off and he spent so many weeks and months away from home, the marriage failed.

I don't think there's anywhere he hadn't been. Working on *Whicker's World* gave him the travel bug. He ended up in some weird places and situations, including an apartment somewhere in Indonesia where a "spiritual healer" performed spirit surgery, apparently drawing cancers from patients' stomachs without leaving scars. The fact that the "cancers" looked and smelled suspiciously like offal from the butcher's shop below was evidence of the truth.

John's sense of humour and mischief earned him a reputation on film sets wherever he went, and some of the stories are dead dodgy and I can't possibly tell them in church. With us, the mischief came out especially on walks. We did a lot of mushroom hunting, which meant a lot of looking down. While I was busy exploring the ground, the little toad would hide and I'd spend ages wandering around looking for him. Then, just as I was getting really annoyed, he'd spring out from behind a bush and scare the rude word out of me.

John was never shy in telling tales about what he got up to, on and off set, except one incident that happened in Mexico. We never managed to squeeze it out of him.

John loved documentary work and was really miffed when the Beeb moved him to Drama. He made a beautiful job of a series called *Fair Stands the Wind for France*, then decided he was bored and moved to Rome, where he spent six years working out of Cinecittà. Auntie had no idea he was living abroad...

While in Rome he became close to his agent, a Contessa with lots of contacts in the arts. Already fond of opera, John developed a real passion for it, and would sob inconsolably when Madama Butterfly sang her sad aria. I remember seeing it with him at the Albert Hall, the two of us sobbing in unison.

He worked with some big stars and on some big movies. He beat Sean Connery at poker, and the star sulked for days. He worked second unit on *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*, including the trolleys scene in the escape from the mine.

Then there was dear old *Top of the Pops*, working with Abba and Kate Bush, among many others.

John also loved organs and organ music, and worked with his friend, the American organist Carlo Curley, on a documentary about the transportable electric pipe organ Carlo had designed and built himself.

I met John at a party in 1985. He was moving into commercials by then, which took him on locations all over Europe while I stayed at home, went to work and looked after the cat.

Meeting me introduced John to horses. A lifelong rider, I had my own horse, so not to be outdone he decided to have lessons. He took to it, of course, like a duck to water. Even as a beginner, the laziest, most recalcitrant nag would turn into Valegro for him. So annoying!

We finally married in 2001 and came here to live. John had been borrowing my horse, Nellie, but we wanted to ride together, so we went all the way to Porlock to try a horse that friends had recommended. John and Buck bonded then and there. He almost came home with us, except squeezing a 16hh Clydesdale into a Skoda Fabia proved too difficult.

John and I rode together for years, and he and Bucky became quite the showjumping team. We rode through the woods, looking for mushrooms, watching deer in the bracken and passing roosting owls without disturbing them. John must be the most unlikely person to have become a churchwarden, but he did, working with Jenny Flynn, the gentler partner, who softened some of John's blows when getting things running his way. After that he became a Parish Councillor, in charge of... traffic calming. If you get caught by a SID flashing red at you, or suddenly come across a chicane round here, they'll be there because of John and are still a source of controversy. No surprise there.

Then there was dear old *Top of the Pops*, working with Abba and Kate Bush, among many others.

John also loved organs and organ music, and worked with his friend, the American organist Carlo Curley, on a documentary about the transportable electric pipe organ Carlo had designed and built himself.

He was funny, clever, inventive, driven and never gave up. He expected 100% of himself and those he worked with. He was kindness itself if a stranger was in trouble, and dogs, cats, horses, wildlife and children all instantly liked him.

Even after four decades, there was still a lot I didn't know about

John, which made him so interesting. But one thing I did discover was his courage. Always slightly inclined towards hypochondria, you know, man flu and stuff, when faced with cancer he put his brave pants on and carried on fighting, even managing to take me to Bologna for our final adventure together.

I nursed him almost to the very end, until he had to go into hospice care, where he died five days later, just over two and a half years since his diagnosis. In the final months of his life he accepted Christ as his Lord and Saviour, which brings me peace, as I know we will meet again in the Resurrection Life, though as the freed slave said at the end of *Gladiator*, "but not yet, not yet..."

Typical of him was his complete lack of religiousness, and his "say it like it is" manner remained as it had always been. A few days before he fell asleep for the last time, after enduring a blanket bath, he looked me straight in the eye and said, "I'm pissed off with this!" I knew he didn't mean the blanket bath, and I really couldn't help but sympathise.

He died peacefully, with me holding his hand, on the 8th of July, late on a balmy evening with a soft breeze blowing through the window. A beautiful, quiet end to what had been one heck of a life.

And now, we will definitely never know what happened in Mexico!



PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Parochial Church Council of Chinnor, Aston Rowant, Sydenham and Crowell have petitioned the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Oxford for a Faculty authorising the repair of the following two monuments :

Thomas Busby (passed away 1922)

George Seymour

(passed away 1901)

Both monuments have been cordoned off due to health and safety reasons. It is a requirement of Section 3 of the Faculty Jurisdiction Measure 1964 that reasonable attempts be made to contact/notify connected to the memorials to seek their consent, as the owner of the memorial. Any wishing to object to the proposed work should contact the Churchwardens :



Lauretta Milligan 01844 355290



Robert Pegg 01844 698109

JOURNEYING THROUGH GRIEF

A four-week course offering comfort, hope and gentle support in bereavement

Starting: **Tuesday 8th September**

Time: **Tuesdays 1830- 2000**

Venue: **St Andrew's Church, Chinnor**

Duration: **4 weeks**

For more information or to book your place, please contact:

Rev'd Jacky

by email rector@unitedparish.church or 07769 825 305

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."



Report from Sydenham for September 2026 Parish magazine

Since our last report, we have been doing a lot of 'fellowship' in Sydenham. Although rather a damp squib with the weather (oh for some rain though in subsequent months) there was a great atmosphere at the annual **Village Fayre** in early June and our loyal followers turned out from far and wide including many from across the Parish. Thank you as ever for your support. We are awaiting news on what percentage of the profits St Mary's may be granted.

There then followed our **Village Party** organised by the Parish Council - and a marvellous job they did in creating a convivial and very jolly atmosphere attracting many Sydenham-ites – old and new including newcomers. Elton John took time out from his world tour to entertain us and delicious Ottolenghi style food and plentiful cocktails and wine kept the atmosphere going – even through the live broadcast of the football!



Entitled '**Music for the Seasons**' the annual **St Mary's Concert** then took place on the 4th July to a packed sold out church of over 100. It was in two very different parts. Part one "Music for the Seasons' took our audience through twelve months with songs, poetry and piano recitals. The beautiful flower arrangements by Adele adorning each windowsill represented beautiful blooms from Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. After refreshments in the Old School Room, the audience came back to a different world of rebellious France in the early 19th Century. The tricolour adorned the 'barricades' (top of the organ, pulpit and above the altar!) and smoke billowed from canon fire magically and masterfully created by Lloyd as the characters and company sang pieces from **Les Misérables** of their despair, love, hope and dreams.

From the start of the concert, there was a tremendous energy from the 20 strong Sydenham Choir and visiting singers and feedback was nothing but positive: Hayley from the village was suitably impressed!

"Wow, Wow, Wow! We could have all been in the West End last night. You all absolutely smashed it with your phenomenal singing and organisation"

During the concert we gave a heartfelt tribute to Siobhan who we all miss SO much.

Thank you to the Sydenham villagers and further afield visitors who gave their support. It was also wonderful to see Joan and Jacky. All moneys raised will be shared and go to the upkeep of St Mary's and the Choir.

Ongoing is our **monthly coffee morning** on the second Thursday between 10 and 12 noon with delicious cakes, freshly brewed coffee and lots of chat on offer. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you in the Old School Room.

Future Choir Date

Do come along on **Tuesday 17th November** for the annual Sydenham Choir's '**rehearsal on tour**'. Now in its 11th year and having visited a wide selection of churches throughout South Oxfordshire. **St Peter & St Peter** at **Aston Rowant** will be kindly hosting us this year.

We plan an informal programme of much loved songs including a sprinkling of Christmas.

It's free (but contributions are welcome) and starts at 6.30pm for 40 minutes or so. Do come along - no booking necessary.



Come and Sing!

St Mary's Choir aka Sydenham Singers is a friendly group that meet every Tuesday at 6.15pm for an hour in St Mary's Church. Come and sing with us and let that feel good factor take over! Amongst our ongoing church services and special days, we hold an annual concert, organise a choir outing, support Parish weddings and funerals and lots more. Let us know if interested (call Fi on 07785 220621) or just come along for a taster.

Fi Kermack



To make a donation, please see page 39

23

Website: <http://achurchnearyou.com/Chinnor-Sydenham-Aston-Rowant-Crowell-United-Parish>

Mr Ronald and Mrs Joyce Biswell Celebrate 75 Years of Marriage

Huge congratulations to long time Chinnor residents, Mr Ronald and Mrs Joyce Biswell who are celebrating an incredible 75 years of marriage! The inspiring couple, both now 95 years old, have reached their 'Diamond Plus' anniversary – an amazing milestone that speaks of a lifetime of love, partnership, family and shared adventures.

Their wedding was held at the beautiful Bledlow Church in September 1951, and followed by a reception at Bledlow Village Hall. The couple then moved to Chinnor in 1952 shortly after their wedding, embarking on a journey that would see them become staples of the Chinnor community for nearly three quarters of a century.

Together, Ron and Joyce raised a busy family of four sons, are the proud Grandparents of 8 Grandchildren and Great-Grandparents to 10 Great-Grandchildren – with an 11th expected to arrive very soon!

Ron and Joyce now enjoy a quieter pace of life centred around their large, loving family. Ron can still sometimes be seen tending to his beautiful garden whilst

Joyce still enjoys an occasional trip to Tesco for the weekly shop!

Please join us in wishing Ron and Joyce a very Happy 75th Wedding Anniversary!
Congratulations to a truly exceptional couple!



To make a donation, please see page 39

Website: <http://achurchnearyou.com/Chinnor-Sydenham-Aston-Rowant-Crowell-United-Parish>



Don't throw it away!

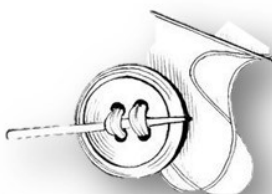


If you have small items that need mending,
bring them along to our

Repair Cafe



- ✓ Small electricals
- ✓ Toys
- ✓ Clothing
- ✓ Mechanical items
- ✓ Leather work
- ✓ Book repairs



Nothing to mend?
Come along for
coffee and a chat

St Andrew's Church
Church Rd, Chinnor OX39 4PQ
Saturday 12th September 2026
10:00am – 1:00pm
Last item accepted at 12:30 pm

Repairs are free but please give a cash donation to cover costs.

Any extra will go towards the care and maintenance of St Andrew's Church. We can only accept cash.

For more information email: greeningchinnor@gmail.com or call 07973 78839

Friends of St. Andrew's Church

Lunchtime Concert
Featuring

Julie in the Jam JAR

Performing jazz standards from the 1930s to the 1960s



Friday 4 September
12.30 to 1.15pm

**Admission is FREE with a retiring collection in aid of St.
Andrew's Fabric Restoration Fund and
the Milton Margai School for the Blind,
Freetown, Sierra Leone.**

Refreshments Available before the Concert

St Andrew's Educational Trust.

A year ago I wrote an article setting out the history and purpose of the St. Andrew's Educational Trust and as always, time has flown by and a new Academic Year is upon us.

Our role making grants to provide individuals who need some financial support with their educational aspirations is just as important today as at any other time, with spiralling costs, and we can help where the need falls outside the support that should be provided primarily by the Local Authority. To recap, to be eligible, the applicant has to be from within the Chinnor Parish boundary, and in Education. That might be education in Chinnor, outside of Chinnor at say, Lord Williams's School for example, or college or University. The purpose may be for help towards the cost of books, a musical instrument or equipment or towards the cost of a trip that broadens the individual's experience. We try not to be too proscriptive and treat each case on its merits.

Some examples of requests that we have supported are help towards the cost of a Scout Trip, the cost of equipment needed for acting lessons, the cost of specialist books for a University Course, and we have given help through our two Primary Schools and Lord Bill's towards the cost of residential trips to Kilvrough Manor and Youlbury.

More information about us can be found at:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/27-117CM/page/97324/>

Application is relatively simple and can be done on the internet through the link on our page on the web site mentioned above.

If you are thinking of making an application and need additional help please make contact with us through our Administrator, who is now Seb Hearmon, who can be reached by email at trust.admin@unitedparish.church.

We are here to help where we can and we look forward to hearing from you.

Ian R White

Trustee of the St Andrew's Educational Trust.
Registered Charity No: 287030

Fairtrade Fortnight 2026

21st September- 4th October



**This year's campaign theme is
'Do it Fair – for People, for Planet and for Fair Pay'**

Over this two-week period, thousands of individuals, schools, and businesses will highlight issues relating to how products are sourced, the rights of and payments made to those involved in production of items, as well as the impact of climate change.

You can get involved by supporting ethical brands, buying certified products and visiting www.fairtrade.net for more information.

To view Fairtrade items available go to:

[-www.ethicalsuperstore.com](http://www.ethicalsuperstore.com)

(choose 'Ethics' in 'Shop by' dropdown & click Fairtrade)

[-www.ethicalshop.org](http://www.ethicalshop.org) ,

[-www.wearefairtrade.com](http://www.wearefairtrade.com)

-visit local outlets.

Or, to check out stocks held by **ROD THORPE**

Tel: 01844 351565

Email: chinnormethodisthire@mail.com

Chinnor Praying Together : Wednesday 23 September 2026 : 12 Noon – 1pm

Thank you so much to all the people that joined the 'Prayers for Chinnor' session recently, it was so good to have people from across the community joining together.

It has been suggested that gathering to pray for a topic of common interest across the community, should become a regular event, shared across all three churches, St Andrew's, Chinnor Methodist Church and Chinnor Community Church.

But to get things kicked off it is planned that we take the topic of 'New Beginnings' when we gather together to pray, in St. Andrew's Church on Wednesday 23rd September at Noon for one hour.

New beginnings could be starting new schools, colleges, jobs, new babies arriving, new people moving into the area, new projects starting, new members of local community groups like Scouts, Guides, U3A etc anything.

As before, please feel free to drop in for a few minutes or the whole hour, or to leave a note of requests for prayers for a specific issue during the week preceding 23 September. There will be a basket at the back of church and prayer requests can be added to the basket. All prayers submitted will be included in the Prayer Vigil.

Jane Tucker

'ACHURCHNEARYOU.com'

If you want to look up details of services and events in our United Parish,
Or read the latest United parish Magazine, Home Service Booklet,
on your phone, tablet or laptop,
then bookmark the following link:

<http://www.achurchnearyou.com/Chinnor-Sydenham-Aston-Rowant-Crowell-United-Parish>

Every Church of England church has a listing on AChurchNearYou.com, and this is the website for our four churches in the United Parish. Every time any of us goes onto this website or searches for it via a search engine, it helps take us up higher in the list of search results, and means more people may be aware of our website, and of our parish and its activities.

Please contact Rev'd Tony Whitaker if you have any suggestions for, or comments about the website

Bats in the Belfry

When Jacky asked us if we could persuade some of our newer members of the band to write an article for the Parish Magazine I thought perhaps we should get everyone in the band to write a small piece. So far Darrell, Malcolm (our Tower Captain) and Bev have written articles which I hope you have found interesting.

This month I have decided to write about some of the activities the band has been involved in over the summer. (If, however you are one of those people who find bells are there just to annoy the locals, please feel free to turn over and move on)

I have been asked by various people why the bells are now ringing on Thursday evenings as well as our regular practice on Friday evenings. The answer, is for us, a very nice one. We now have a number of new ringers, who are learning to ring. If you have one or even two new ringers, you can squeeze them into a practice night, but when you have five or six, each needing at least ten minutes rope time, it doesn't leave much time for the rest of the band, so we now teach the beginners on Thursday, until such time as they are confident enough to ring with the rest of the band on Friday.

All church bell towers belong to a local Guild or Association. The Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers, which covers parts of Berkshire and Buckinghamshire as well as the whole of Oxfordshire is divided into fifteen sections. Here in Chinnor we belong to the South Oxford Branch, which covers areas around Dorchester and Thame. Each month we have a District Practice, and in July Chinnor was asked to host the practice. It is an opportunity for more experienced ringers to get together with other ringers to ring methods they would not normally be able to ring in their own towers. It is also an opportunity for newer ringers to try different methods with more experienced ringers. Our two young ringers were both able to attend and impressed the District Training Officer with their ringing, Now when the Training Officer is a ringer at both Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral you know he recognizes good ringing when he hears it, so well done our beginners.

Our main problem of the afternoon was what to do about tea. If you are a ground floor ring it is easy enough to nip out and put the kettle on, however if like Chinnor you are 40 steps up the tower it is more difficult.

However we were lucky Moyra and Bev offered to take on tea duties for which we were very grateful, especially as Bev had only returned from the family holiday that morning. It was a truly excellent tea – I have a feeling the District will be asking to come again. So thank you Moyra and Bev.

One other activity we take part in is Tower Twinning. Tower names are picked out of a hat and two towers are twinned. They will visit us on our practice night, and then we will visit them on their practice night. This year we have visited Marsh Baldon, which was an opportunity for one of our young ringers to visit a different tower – always an interesting experience. Marsh Baldon is a ground floor ring in a tiny room tucked away behind the organ. It is a five bell tower, and the ringing room is just large enough for five ringers to squash in. It was an enjoyable evening all round and our beginner managed the bells very well.

This month we have been twinned with Watlington, which was another very interesting evening. Watlington is a ground floor ring, at the back of the church, where the congregation can watch you ringing as they arrive. Unlike Chinnor, where the bells are immediately above the ringing room, and thus have very short ropes, the drop from the tower at Watlington is enormous. You look, up and up and up, and finally the ropes disappear through the floor of the clock room, only to go still further up into the belfry. Both our two young ringers were able to join us on Wednesday. I must say they both did us proud in coping with the very long ropes. Also because the bells at Watlington are newly hung, the ropes are still quite stretchy. It is a bit like ringing on elastic. You put the brakes on, but the bell keeps on going. Our two beginners managed Plain Hunt on 7 bells, which, of course, is something they can't do at Chinnor as we only have six bells, so that was a new experience for them both.

All in all Chinnor Tower is coming along nicely. Further news a month or two down the line.

**Friends of
St Andrew's Church, Chinnor
Present**



Friday 25th September 2026

Chinnor Village Hall

£5 per person

Doors Open 7:00 pm

Quiz Begins 7:45 pm

BYO Food and Drink

Raffle

**To reserve your table please contact Laretta on
07843 938 748 or e-mail laretta@milligan.me.uk
(8 per table)**

Not suitable for children under 16

Fundraising towards the ongoing care and maintenance
of St Andrew's Church

RIDE + STRIDE for Churches 2026

Start planning
your route

**Ride +
Stride 2026**

Saturday 12th September

Walk, cycle and explore
Oxfordshire's churches



Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust

Ride + Stride is the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust's biggest annual fundraiser. The money raised helps us award grants for urgent repairs, conservation work, and essential improvements to churches and chapels of all denominations across Oxfordshire.

Whether you're walking, cycling, or using public transport, every sponsored mile directly supports the future of our county's historic places of worship. Thank you to everyone who takes part - you make our work possible. All four churches in the United Parish are taking part.

Lauretta and Nic Milligan will be walking to all four churches and fundraising for St Andrew's Church – if you would like to sponsor them, fundraising link: <https://www.goodhub.com/go/ride-stride-for-st-andrews-church-chinnor-2026>

This year's event takes place on **Saturday 12th September 2026**.

Start fundraising today: ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride.

To make a donation, please see page 39

Website: <http://achurchnearyou.com/Chinnor-Sydenham-Aston-Rowant-Crowell-United-Parish>





Join us for the
WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING



Enjoy Coffee, Cake & Music while supporting a great cause!

St. Andrew's Church, Chinnor
Monday 5th October 2026
11.00 – 12.30



Performance from the
Chinnor Silver Community Band

Free entry – donations to
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT




There are Work Parties planned for the following Saturdays –
 dates are as follows :

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, CHINNOR

26 September

CROWELL CHURCH, CROWELL

26 September

Come and enjoy the company of friends old and new as we care for the grounds and the church.

10am-12 noon

Refreshments provided.





To make an online donation, our bank details are

CAF Bank (*who are a bank for charities*)

Account name: **United Parish of Chinnor**

Account number: **0001 9680**

Account sort code: **40 52 40**

If you would like to donate through our **Just Giving** page, here is our QR code



<https://www.justgiving.com/unitedparish-chinnor>

Charity Gift Aid Declaration

If you are a tax payer , you can boost your donation by 25p
for every £1 you donate.



Cutbacks to the school budget had somewhat restricted after-school activities.

PUZZLES

	3				2			6
7	9			8		2		
8								
		5					2	
		8	2		3	9		
	6					7		
								9
		1		4			6	8
6			1				5	



Wordsearch – The Parable of the Weeds (Matthew 13.24-30)

Ever wonder why there is both good and evil allowed in this world? Jesus told a parable that touched on this subject – it is called the Parable of the Weeds. It runs like this: Consider the world as if it were a field where a Farmer has sown good seed. But then an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat. So, when the wheat came up, so did the weeds. What to do? Instead of destroying the weeds, and thereby risking the wheat, the Farmer tells his reapers to wait and let both wheat and weeds grow together until the harvest. At the harvest he will instruct the reapers to gather up the wheat, but to discard the weeds. So do not despair when evil seems to thrive in this world – there is a reckoning still to come, and justice will be done.

Kingdom	Heaven	Good	Seed	Field
Sleeping	Grain	Weeds	Enemy	Servants
Master	Sow	Gather	Reap	Root
Let	Grow	Together	Harvest	Bundles
		Barn	Burned	

Solutions

5	3	4	7	1	2	8	9	6
7	9	6	3	8	5	2	1	4
8	1	2	6	9	4	5	3	7
3	4	5	9	7	8	6	2	1
1	7	8	2	6	3	9	4	5
2	6	9	4	5	1	7	8	3
4	5	3	8	2	6	1	7	9
9	2	1	5	4	7	3	6	8
6	8	7	1	3	9	4	5	2

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

Parish Office

For all enquiries concerning baptism, confirmation and matrimony
please contact the Parish Office.

Rector: Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr

Parish Office: Tricia Prescott

St Andrew's Church, Chinnor, OX39 4PG

01844 352472 - office@unitedparish.church

Treasurer: Susan Ashdown

Opening Hours: subject to change, please call or email ahead if you are
planning to visit

Monday **Closed**

Tuesday **1.30 – 3.30pm**

Wednesday **1.30 – 3.30pm**

Thursday **1.30 – 3.30pm**

Friday **Closed**

The best way of contacting the parish office is by emailing: office@unitedparish.church
Please note that the office will be closed between the 2th-9th September 26

Parish Magazine:

Editor: Nicholas Milligan

Editors Note— We are trialing going back to a monthly edition of the magazine.

Submissions should be emailed to magazine@unitedparish.church

DEADLINE: October Magazine is 22nd September

The churchwarden's contact details

St Andrew's, Chinnor

Robert Pegg 01844 698109

Lauretta Milligan 01844 355290

St Peter & St Paul, Aston Rowant

Richard Boarder 07795 681263

Vacancy

St Mary's, Sydenham

Roy Harrison 01844 353887

Vacancy

Nativity of B.V.M. Crowell

Andy Warman 01844 351909

Maggs Warman 01844 351909

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Date	Time	What	Where
4th September	12.30 - 1.15pm	Lunchtime concert with JamJar*	St Andrew's Church
12th September	All Day	Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust : Ride & Stride	All Churches
12th September	10am-1pm	Repair Café	St Andrew's Church
13th September	6pm	Harvest supper with hymns	Crowell Church
18th September	10am-11.30am	Coffee Morning—Operation Christmas Child Shoebox	Chinnor Village Centre
23rd September	Noon-1pm	Chinnor Praying Together	St Andrews Church
25th September	7.45pm	Friends of St Andrews Church Quiz Nite*	Chinnor Village Hall
26th September	10am-Noon	St Andrew's Work Party	St Andrew's Church
26th September	10am-Noon	Crowell Work Party	Crowell Church
26th September	7pm	Harvest Supper*	St Andrew's Church
27th September	10.30am	St Andrew's Church Harvest Service with Methodists	St Andrew's Church
2nd October	12.30 - 1.15pm	Lunchtime concert with Allsorts*	St Andrew's Church
4th October	9am	Harvest Service	Aston Rowant
5th October	11am—12.30am	MacMillan Coffee Morning	St Andrew's Church
6th October	12.30-2.30	Harvest Lunch	Aston Rowant Church
11th October	10.30	Harvest Service	Sydenham Church
18th October	10.30am	Rev'd Jacky's last service	St Andrew's Church
18th October	11.30am	Rev'd Jacky's farewell party	Chinnor Village Hall
30th Oct —1st Nov	11am	Sydenham Church Art Show	St Marys Church
31st Oct	4pm	Commemoration of the Departed	St Andrew's Church
6th Nov	12.30-1.15	Lunchtime concert with Pavlova Winds*	St Andrew's Church

* Friends of St Andrews Event