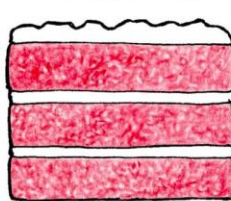
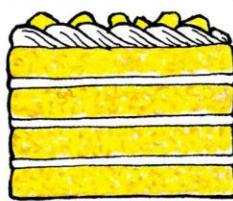
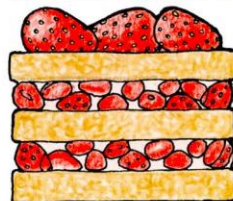
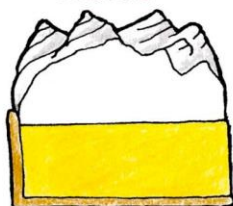
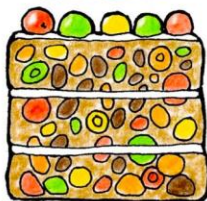
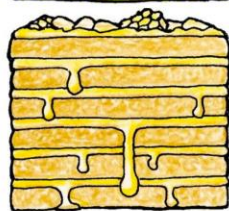
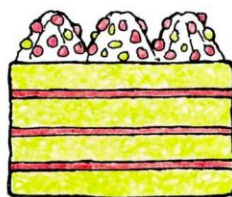
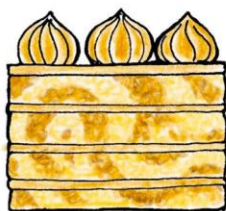
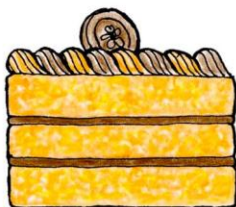
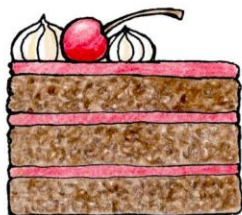


September
2026

Rushen Parish Magazine



Taste and see that the Lord is good.
The Lord's words are sweeter to me than honey.
Ps 34:8, Ps 119:103

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From the Editor

Many years ago, and as a surprise 60th birthday treat for Pauline, I organised a three-day visit to Paris. Neither of us had been to Paris before so it was a first time for me too. The package included first class travel on Eurostar, with a meal provided both to and from Paris, three nights bed and breakfast at a luxury hotel in Montparnasse, and some freebies to visit places where normally you would have to pay an entrance fee. We travelled from Ashford International station and our train from London arrived on time. Unfortunately we didn't move for over an hour because of technical problems. As a good-will gesture we were given two complimentary first-class tickets at Gare du Nord station so that we could visit Paris again because of the delay we had encountered on our outward journey. The visit itself did not disappoint, and we were able to visit some of the wonderful places that can be found in the French capital.

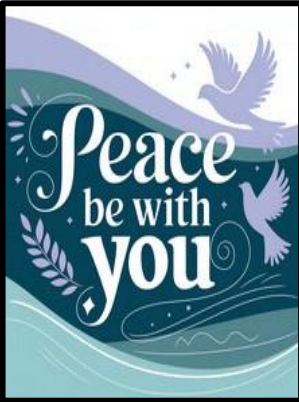
The journey back to Kent was uneventful, apart from one annoying matter. Our tickets were to Ashford International station but, due to unforeseen problems at Ashford, the train would not be stopping there, and as such passengers would have to seek tickets from King's Cross station in London back to Ashford at Eurostar's expense. We arranged transport and decided to spend the rest of the day in London visiting well-known places. However, just before leaving the station we saw a man playing a piano. How strange this seemed, a piano in the middle of a station concourse with someone playing it. We decided to sit down and listen. He was very competent, and the music he was playing quite charismatic. After a little while someone else came along to play the piano, and again the music was beautiful. A succession of people followed either to play music, or accompany a song that they had written. It really was captivating.

Over the past few weeks I have been watching the Channel 4 programme 'The Piano'. It is based on an amateur pianist playing a piano on the concourse of stations in the UK, and people coming to it and playing their own music, or other familiar pieces of music. In fact it was the same scenario that we stumbled upon in London after our visit to Paris. If you haven't seen the programme and you are able to retrieve by streaming it, I urge you to do so. I won't give the game away by divulging the winner. Basically six pianists were chosen to play at a concert in Birmingham. Each of them selected by famous musicians who had listened to approximately fifty amateur pianists playing at UK stations and whittling them down to six.

We all have talents, some hidden, some used to help others, or to create a piece of art or music, or to make beautiful meals, or to write stories and/or to illustrate them, to be poetic or good at writing poetry. The list is endless. The parable of the talents, that Jesus told to his disciples, illustrates what we should do with the talents we all have. It doesn't do to dig a hole and bury them. We should all be prepared to air them in public and derive as much from them as those six musicians, who moved me to tears, at the final of the concert held in Birmingham. Why not give it a go?

Incidentally, when we got home from our trip to Paris I made a phone call to Eurostar. I complained about the inconvenience caused by our return train not stopping at Ashford. They were so apologetic and as a good-will gesture they sent me two first-class tickets from Paris to Ashford. These, along with the complimentary tickets from Ashford to the Gare du Nord, that we were given on the outward journey, meant a free holiday to Paris, and we took it!

David



Reflected Faith Series - The Peace

Editor: The Revd Dr Jo White continues her series on aspects of Christianity.

Last time we reflected on the time of 'Intercessions' within our service. This month, we consider what comes next.

In a Common Worship Communion service, the 'Peace' comes straight after the Intercessions. There is no such thing with a Book of Common Prayer (BCP) service.

A time of sharing 'The Peace' is not restricted to Communion services, but may take place in other services also. It does not have to follow the Intercessions, but instead could also be held towards the start or end of the service. Where you place 'the Peace' is significant: having it at the beginning emphasises the community coming together, whilst towards the end of the service might be to emphasise the importance of being together that encourages and enables us to take God with us into our everyday lives.

But why have it at all? Haven't we all come together to this service to worship the same God? To be together with others who think and believe as we do? Hopefully yes, but sometimes we just need a visible sign of that very unity and a reminder that we are a part of this community where we are, as well as a part of the wider church across the world. It is so easy to forget this. To just go on repeat and not be conscious of this enormous honour that we have to 'meet together in His presence.'

'Sharing the peace'- however we do that - with one another is a demonstrative act of community. Everyone is included. *The Peace of the Lord be always with you – And also with you.*

This Month:

Where is 'The Peace' placed within your service and what do you think is the reason for that? Does making a physical connection – however you do that – with those around you make a difference to your thinking about 'community'?

Revd Dr Jo White

Jerusalem

A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied: "They couldn't get a babysitter."



‘Samuel’

The exceptional man who put the crown on David’s head

The Bible contains descriptions of many kinds of leaders. These men (and sometimes women) were responsible for the well-being of groups of people. Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt. Joshua led the wilderness wanderers into the Promised Land. Gideon. Ezra and

Nehemiah led people to fight against their enemies and improved their moral and spiritual lives.

While these people may be familiar to us, the Bible also mentions other individuals who had different leadership responsibilities. Some fulfilled their positions readily while others, like Joseph and Esther, gradually became aware of their roles and achieved the purposes God had for them.

As a baby, Samuel was dedicated to the service of God. While a young boy, God spoke directly to him. Samuel grew up gaining favour with both God and men. At an early age, God was with Samuel and made everything that Samuel said come true.

Samuel became the ruler of Israel. His style of leadership was based on godliness, fairness and good organisation. He settled disputes, served as a judge and banned pagan gods from the land.

When Samuel became old, the people became restless. They demanded to have a king to rule over them. God reluctantly agreed. Under God's guidance, Samuel chose Saul. Unfortunately, Saul failed to lead the people in the way of God. So God directed Samuel to anoint David to be the next king of Israel.

Samuel, it appears, was acutely aware of his responsibility to be a good leader. He was a man of good reputation but his obedience to God brought about difficulty, uncertainty and hardship. He wanted Saul to be a good leader, but Saul failed to live up to his high calling. Samuel was deeply upset and departed from the king's presence. He knew that a bad leader would bring about the nation's downfall.

Nevertheless, Samuel treated Saul with respect and courtesy. He understood the principle of submission to God-ordained authority. He was loyal to Saul, even though he turned out to be a bad leader.

Samuel's grief over Saul's failure is a reminder for us to pray for our leaders on a regular basis (whether or not they fall short in their official capacity!) We need God to provide us with leaders who are trustworthy and honourable. Let's pray for good leaders that they may enhance truth, peace and justice throughout the world.



Government consultation on weddings proposes greater flexibility and cheaper options

Editor: I wonder how long the IOM government will follow suit?

Couples will soon be able to marry anywhere, including forests, beaches, cruise ships at sea, canal boats, and at home, under Government proposals that “shift the focus from bricks and mortar to people and promises.”

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is to consult on plans to allow “authorised officiants” of any religion or belief to conduct weddings, in what are being described as the most radical changes to marriage law in England and Wales since the 19th century.

The Government says, however, that the “permanence” of marriage will be strengthened by enabling more questioning of candidates before their weddings.

“To protect against forced, predatory and sham marriages, couples must complete a two-stage process, including in-person interview, to verify their identity and demonstrate eligibility to marry.”

Anglican banns of marriage would continue “as an important part of the established Church,” the document says.

It continues: “The Government agrees with the Law Commission’s recommendation that Anglican weddings should continue to be conducted as they are now. It recognises the unique role of the Church of England and the Church [in] Wales in relation to marriage and has no plans to alter . . . these roles.”

The MoJ says that the proposals will reduce costs. The average wedding in England costs more than £20,000 and venue hire alone typically costs around £6,000 - before any food.

About 470,000 people marry in England and Wales each year. Anglican weddings are normally required to take place in a church or chapel, although they can take place in a private home by special licence. Of course we all know that these rules have not been kept for years.

Parish Pump

Crafts

A class of schoolchildren were asked, "Are there any crafts in the Bible?" to which one lad put his hand up and said, "The parable of the sewer?"

The Power of Prayer



Editor - In response to last month's article about the Berlin wall being demolished, Margaret Moore suggested that I include this piece, taken from the booklet entitled 'try praying,' It concludes with the things that we, as Christians, can pray for each and every day

East Germany

1989 was the year that the Berlin wall came down and 10 East European nations were released from communist rule. Historians will cite many reasons for this change. However one factor is overlooked: a prayer meeting in Leipzig.

For 40 years the church in East Germany had been praying for better things. They cared for the poor and met every Monday to pray and worship. Since 1982 Pastor Christian Fuehrer had met with a few people in his church to pray. Seven years later four churches were holding weekly prayer meetings, and the numbers began to grow, attracting ordinary citizens. After the meetings candlelit peace marches through the city took place.

The communist authorities debated how they could stamp it out. The secret police issued death threats and roughed up some of the marchers. But the crowds kept coming. Eventually as many as 50,000 came.

On 9th October 1989, police and army units moved into Leipzig. People feared a massacre and hospital emergency rooms were cleared. Honecker, the East German leader, gave permission to use force, but the prayer meeting and the march went ahead. 70,000 people marched. The following Monday 120,000, and a week later 500,000 were on the streets. By November 1 million marched in East Berlin.

Then something amazing happened. People started crossing to West Berlin and the police stood by without a shot being fired. The Berlin Wall and all it symbolised had just crumbled.

Key: Every time you use a key today pray: 'God, unlock my life to your influence'

Keep praying for: **Your big issue** – the area in your life where you most want God to work

Other people – your friend or family member who needs help



News from St Catherine's and Kirk Christ



Once again Kirk Christ has had many paying a visit to see both the church itself, and the burial ground. It is always a joy to meet people from all over the globe. This month we have looked at our registers for families from Canada, America, South Africa and Poland. Many visitors say how tranquil and quiet the church and burial ground are, especially this year during the lovely summer weather we have experienced.

The summer concerts at St Catherine's Church commenced in July and are now about two-thirds into the season. The attendance has been good at all concerts and visitors from home and abroad commenting on the talent we have in both the choirs and the bands which have entertained us. We are now looking forward to the remaining concerts with the season concluding with the Rushen Silver Band on Thursday 17th September.

Gerry Callister

News from St Peter's – David Hibbert's Birthday



David and his wife Audrey came to the Isle of Man 26 years ago straight after retirement. He found his faith when he was 19 after going through a difficult period in his life. He has never looked back. It has been incredibly important to him throughout his life.

David and Audrey have two grown up children and two granddaughters of whom they are incredibly proud. He enjoys gardening and looking after his indoor and outdoor fish.

A celebration of David's birthday took place on the island and in the UK. We toasted his landmark birthday at St Peter's Church with an 80's themed caked, and alcohol-free Prosecco. David also makes the best tea after each service at church!

Rachel Evans

Sudoku September 2026

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

Fast prayer

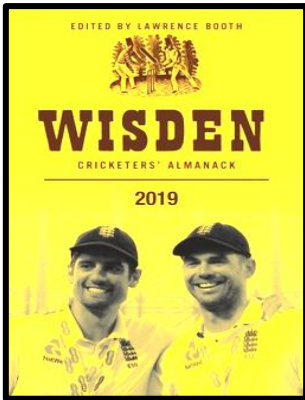
A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Sunday School. As she ran, she prayed. "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" Suddenly, she tripped on the pavement, and fell over, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!"

Sudoku Solution Aug. 2026

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

Crossword Solution Aug.2026

S		S		S		C		S		M		F
P	R	I	N	C	E	O	F	P	E	A	C	E
R		N			O		M		U		T	E
I	N	F			U	N	M	A	R	R	I	E
N		U		R		I				N		O
G	U	L	A	G		T	R	E	A	S	O	N
	R				E			R			W	
I	N	A	I	D	O	F		A	R	E	N	A
N		T				R		S		M		D
C	A	L	V	I	N	I	S	T		P	A	D
O		A		N		E		I		I		I
M	O	S	E	S	A	N	D	A	A	R	O	N
E		T		T		D		N		E		G



Wisden's Cricketers' Almanack

Two hundred years ago, on 5th September 1826, British cricketer John Wisden was born. He was the founder of *Wisden's Cricketers' Almanack*. Launched with 112 pages in 1864, it now runs to 1500 pages and is the bible of cricket.

Wisden was a builder's son, born in Brighton. He moved to London after his father died, and lived with the outstanding Sussex wicketkeeper, Tom Box. Wisden was only 5ft 4in and weighed seven stone when he made his first-class debut for Sussex against MCC in 1845, taking nine wickets. He became known as Little Wonder.

He averaged 225 wickets a season for twelve years, took 455 wickets in 1851, and clean bowled all ten wickets in the second innings for North v South in 1850. He bowled fast, round-arm (before overarm was permitted) and was said to have had an extraordinary off-break. He was also a strong batsman.

Away from the game, Wisden began a cricket equipment business in Leamington Spa in 1850, and five years later opened a "cricket and cigar" shop in central London, initially in partnership with fellow-cricketer Fred Lillywhite. Wisden was also cricket coach at Harrow School and in 1867 bought The Cricketers, a public house at Duncton in Sussex.

In 1859 Wisden – by now bowling slow – was involved in the first tour by an English team to Canada and the United States, where he achieved a double hat-trick, taking six wickets in six balls.

Because of rheumatism, Wisden retired from cricket in 1863 at the early age of thirty-seven and started publishing his annual Cricketers' Almanack the following year. Described now as the most famous sports book in the world, the iconic yellow-bound volume contains comprehensive match records, chapter and verse, prophecy, history and the occasional sermon. It is known simply as Wisden.

Tim Lenton

Commandment

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six-year-olds. After explaining the commandment to 'honour thy father and thy mother,' she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy answered, "Thou shall not kill."



God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

See www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/churches
and <http://www.cis.org.uk>

How can a Christian be a scientist?

I used to ask this question as a student. I wondered what it was like to have a career in science, and how being a Christian might make a difference. Eventually I met a good number of successful scientists who were sincere Christians, and I learned that science and faith are a great combination. Dr Francis Collins, former Director of the project to decode the whole of human DNA, wrote that it is “possible for the scientist-believer to be intellectually fulfilled and spiritually alive, both worshipping God and using the tools of science to uncover some of the awesome mysteries of His creation.” So, what do people like this make of the opportunities and challenges of a life in science?

Although our beliefs may affect what we notice about the world and how we interpret our data, they don’t affect the outcome of the experiments themselves. If a Muslim and a Christian drop the same ball from the same height under identical conditions, it will fall at the same speed. This means that a scientist can be respected by her colleagues for doing good work, regardless of what she believes and what her colleagues think of her worldview.

Science is an exercise in observing and measuring things, and producing general principles about the way things are. God has declared the world to be ‘very good’ (see chapter one and two of Genesis), and exploring it is a way to express our gratitude to Him. Scientific discoveries can also bring a sense of awe and wonder that feeds into our worship.

Some people don’t want to get involved in certain lines of research because of ethical concerns. On the other hand, there are many issues that make Christians want to get stuck into new research that will help care for people and the rest of creation, such as medical research, ecology or developing appropriate technologies.

Organisations such as Christians in Science and the Faraday Institute gather together scientists who are also people of faith, and others who are interested in the subject. They come from a wide range of backgrounds, and express their beliefs in a variety of different ways. What they have in common is the conviction that you don’t have to choose between science and God. As the young people in our churches prepare to return to their studies, online if not in person, let’s encourage them that science (along with many other fields) is a great way to serve God.

The 25th Anniversary of 9/11



25 years ago, on 11th September 2001, the terrorist attacks on America took place.

Al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four planes and crashed them into the World Trade Centre's Twin Towers in New York, into the Pentagon, and into a field in Pennsylvania (following a passenger revolt – the intended target was Washington DC). 2,973 people were killed.

This year major national institutions in the US will mark the anniversary of that terrible day. In New York, a good number of Christian churches and interfaith groups are planning special services and memorial events.

This will include hourly musical offerings at St Paul's Chapel in New York City, in honour of the chapel's role as a refuge for the first responders.

Other events include a digital experience at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, and various events by the New York City Fire Department, who lost 343 members that day, as well as the four hundred members who have since died from World Trade Centre-related illnesses. There will also be the iconic reading of the names of those who died, and the annual Tribute in Light installation, held at Ground Zero.

In the UK, the 25th anniversary of 9/11 will be remembered by a Memorial Concert, held in the UK, on Friday, 11th September at Southwark Cathedral (7:30 pm to 9:30 pm). A special guest performance by The Outcry Ensemble will present a programme of American and British music reflecting on loss, memory and the human cost of violence.

Planes crashing into skyscrapers



Editor: Here is another article with a connection to that terrible morning in New York written by the Revd Roy Shaw, a retired but active priest in the diocese of York, where he is a spiritual director.

Many of us will remember where we were 25 years ago this month, on Tuesday 11th September, when reports began to come in of planes crashing into skyscrapers in New York. For those of us who were at work, the shock was such that little work got done the rest of that day. Instead, we gathered round the nearest television we could find, watching the news unfold, watching the loop of film as the planes flew into the Twin Towers.

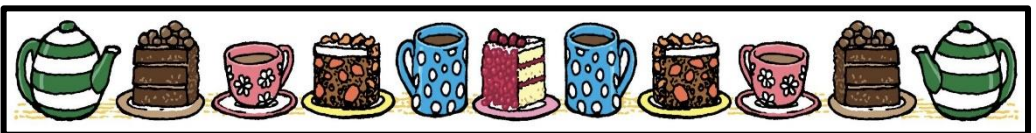
For an earlier generation, it was 'I remember exactly where I was when President Kennedy was shot.' These moments are ones which stay with us. They could be called 'hinge moments' when something changes, a new direction is taken, a moment that has such a profound effect on the world that history sets off in a new direction. Those horrifying scenes on 11th September 2001 led to many of the troubles we see in the Middle East today, and the West's responses to them.

But hinge moments do not *have* to result in wars and loss. As Christians we can say that the life, death, resurrection and teaching of Jesus was one such pivotal moment. Christians were accused of 'turning the world upside down,' such was the effect of their radical and transformative message.

For one thing, we no longer throw unwanted babies out onto a rubbish heap - as Romans did - because the Christian message proclaims all have value before God, and there are better ways to deal with unwanted souls. It took a great deal longer, but slavery was abolished because of the tireless work of Christians. Western society is underpinned in all its fundamentals by the precepts of the Christian faith, and that influence is felt around the world in such proclamations as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We are not just economic units, not just parts of a machine; we are individually loved and valued since we stand in the image of God.

So, in spite of all the destructive forces that we may meet, may we be able to say with St Paul, 'I am convincedthat nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.' And God bless you as you discover more and more of that infinite love.

Revd Roy Shaw



All in the month of September



Two hundred years ago, on 5th September 1826, John Wisden, British cricketer was born. Founder of *Wisden's Cricketers' Almanac*. Launched with 112 pages in 1864, it now runs to 1500 pages and is the bible of cricket.

175 years ago, on 19th September 1851, William Lever, 1st Viscount Leverhulme, was born. Co-founder of Lever Brothers with his brother James. Now called Unilever, this global consumer goods company operates in more than 190 countries.

90 years ago, on 7th September 1936 Buddy Holly, the American rock and roll singer and hits was born. Killed in a plane crash in 1959. **Also on 21st September 1936** Frank Hornby, British inventor, died. Remembered for Meccano, Hornby Model Railways and Dinky Toys. **Also on 30th September 1936** Pinewood Studios in Buckinghamshire were officially opened.

70 years ago, on 25th September 1956 the world's first transatlantic cable, TAT-1, went into service. It could carry thirty-six simultaneous calls, later increased to seventy-two. It was retired in 1978.

65 years ago, on 11th September 1961, the World Wildlife Fund (now the World Wide Fund for Nature) was founded in Switzerland. Nowadays it is the world's largest conservation organisation, operating in one hundred countries with over thirty-five million supporters.

60 years ago, on 8th September 1966 the Severn Bridge was officially opened. Linking Wales and England over the rivers Severn and Wye, it carries about 32,000 vehicles a day.

50 years ago, on 5th September 1976 the first episode of the Muppet Show was broadcast on ITV in the UK. It attracted fifteen million viewers and ran for five series until March 1981.

40 years ago, on 7th September 1986 Desmond Tutu became the first black Archbishop of Cape Town. Retired in 1996.

25 years ago, on 11th September 2001 the terrorist attacks on America took place. Al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four planes and crashed them into the World Trade Centre's Twin Towers in New York, into the Pentagon, and into a field in Pennsylvania (following a passenger revolt – the intended target was Washington DC). 2,973 people were killed.

20 years ago, on 3rd September 2006 Andre Agassi announced his retirement due to back problems. He was thirty-six, a former world number one in tennis, and the 1996 Olympic champion.



'Duke of Edinburgh's Award' Celebrates 70 years: 1956 - 2026

It was back in February of 1956 that Buckingham Palace released a press announcement outlining plans for a trial period of 'The Duke of Edinburgh's Award'.

It was the post-war era, and His Royal Highness wanted to help boys bridge the gap between leaving formal education at 15 and starting National Service at 18. He also wanted them to build self-confidence and a sense of purpose to support them into their future. A youth programme, he believed, would improve their skills and equip them to make valuable contributions to their communities and society.

In 1956, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award pilot was launched to national voluntary youth organisations. It soon expanded to include Local Education Authorities, the Armed Forces and some schools across the UK.

After the first year, 7,000 boys had started a programme and 1,000 Awards had been achieved. Girls were allowed to join the programme in 1958. Since that first year, millions have joined the DofE Award programme.

The DofE continued to evolve, and programmes took on their current format of Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition, and Residential at Gold level in 1980.

In 2020, DofE participants stepped up in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The volunteering efforts of 330,000 young people equated to an investment of almost £8.5 million in a time of need.

The DofE says: "It hasn't been the easiest few years for young people. From the ongoing aftermath of the pandemic to the anxieties of the cost-of-living crisis, the future doesn't always feel certain. "But, in seven decades of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE), we've learnt one thing: never doubt what young people can do. Time and time again, we've seen that when young people are given the chance to prove to themselves what they're capable of, there's no limit to what they can achieve.

"We're here to celebrate and champion every young person. To provide a safe environment of support and challenge that grows as they do. "Whatever their ability, interest or background, DofE offers young people the chance to strive for achievement, overcome obstacles, and set their minds to a personal challenge. Because when you prove to yourself that you're ready for anything, nothing can hold you back. Our Founder HRH Prince Philip once said: 'There is more in you than you might think.' And, here at the DofE, we help you realise that."

Prince Philip passed away in April 2021, but his legacy thrives thanks to the tireless support of the new Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Edward.



Rushen Branch - Mothers' Union Report

We have just had an excellent service at the Cathedral to celebrate 150 years since Mary Sumner started our movement. Bishop Tricia gave us an inspirational sermon and the Mothers' Union Gospel Choir, which includes four members from Rushen, were outstanding. It was a lovely atmosphere, very joyful and uplifting. Many of us stayed for refreshments and chat.

Our year starts again with a Communion service on the 14th September. We have an exciting programme of events which will be held at both St Mary's Church and St Catherine's Hall. We meet in the afternoon of the second Monday of each month and new members are always welcome. If you would like to come and join us please just let us know. You don't have to be a mother – Gerry and David are both members!

One of our first events is a 150th anniversary Afternoon Tea at St Catherine's Hall. At the moment tickets are only available to members but more might be released later. It is on 22nd September at 2pm, tickets are £15. We are encouraging all members to come and celebrate, please contact me for tickets.

We support families and family values. We manned baby changing tents at the Southern Show, the Royal Show and Tynwald Day. This is a service much appreciated by families with very young children, providing a quiet place for feeding and a clean, hygienic nappy changing area. Our members also run a creche service at the prison on family visiting days and we provide bags of toiletries for emergency cases in Nobles.

Nationally MU have a charity AFIA (Away From It All) that helps families who may need a break from their routines.

We look forward to getting together and welcoming any new members.

Dates for Diaries

14th September Corporate Communion. Kirk Christ 2pm

22nd September Afternoon Tea. St Catherine's Hall 2pm (ticket only)

3rd October Autumn Council Meeting, St Johns, 2pm

10th October Quiet evening, venue tbc

Lesley Scott



What God won't ask

God won't ask what kind of car you drove, He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.

God won't ask how big your house was, He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

God won't ask about the clothes you had in your wardrobe, He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.

God won't ask what your highest salary was, He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.

God won't ask what your job title was, He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.

God won't ask how many friends you had, He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

God won't ask in what neighbourhood you lived, He'll ask how you treated your neighbours.

Income

A man was asked if he lived within his income. "Certainly not," he replied. "It is all I can do to live within my credit cards."

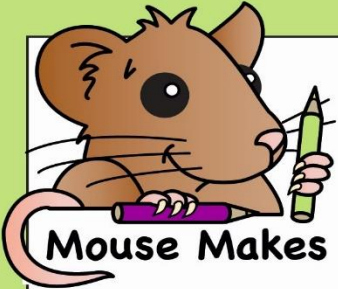
Safeguarding

The Parish of Rushen is committed to the safeguarding, nurture and care of **everyone** within our church community. If you, or someone you know, are concerned that a child or vulnerable adult is at risk or has been harmed, or are concerned about the behaviour of someone towards children or vulnerable adults, please contact: **Rushen Parish Safeguarding Officer, Rhiannon Manning** Tel. 832275, Email psorushen@sodorandman.im. The **Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser** has now been appointed. For more details contact the diocese. A copy of the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy is available on the Diocesan website:

http://www.sodorandman.im/safeguarding_inclusion



Children's Page September



READ
John 15:1-17

THE TRUE VINE

Who is the vine?

John 15:1

What does Jesus ask us to do?

"Go and bear

John 15:16

How many times does Jesus use the word **FRUIT**?

What does Jesus command?

To _____

one another.

John 15:12,17

How many times does Jesus command us to **LOVE** one another?

What happens to the branches that do not remain in the vine?

Thrown into the

and

John 15:6

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

JESUS • I AM • TRUE • VINE • FATHER
GARDENER • FRUIT • FRUITFUL
BRANCH • PRUNES • CUT • WITHERS
CLEAN • THROWN AWAY • FIRE • BURNS
REMAIN • ABIDE • DISCIPLES • JOY



Picture supplied by: 'Ad Meskens, Wikimedia Commons'

God in the Arts

Editor: Have you ever thought how an actual church building might provide a series of visual aids to spiritual meditation? The Revd Michael Burgess continues his procession through a church building, this month pausing to consider the significance of the church bells.

'He gave us eyes to see them' the Church Bells

'Summoned by Bells' is the title of John Betjeman's poetic autobiography, where he describes how bells summoned him to school and to church. Bells announcing the joy of weddings and Sunday services; and also marking out times of sadness and the death of loved ones.

One of the strangest bell-towers is at St Augustine's Church, Brookland in Kent, north-east of Rye. It was originally built in the medieval period, and now stands as a triple coned, wooden, octagonal tower detached from the church, and clad with shingles in 1936.

The story is that the tower looked down at a beautiful bride about to marry an unpleasant groom: it was such a surprise that the tower jumped off the church in shock. The truth is that the church was built on marshy ground, and a stronger foundation was needed for the bells. And so the tower was built north of the church.

Like all belfries and steeples, it is an impressive witness to the place of bells in human life and work: as time-keepers, announcing both festive occasions and emergencies, and calling people away from more worldly pursuits to worship. That is why bells have always been blessed at their installation for their true function is to ring out the harmony of heaven.

The tenor bell at Warburton Church in Cheshire is inscribed with the words, 'I bid you to the house of prayer. St Werburgh's hallowed name I bear. Good folk draw near and humbly pray, as prayed that saint in olden day.' As a little boy, John Betjeman would listen to the bells with his teddy bear, Archibald. 'I heard the church bells hollowing out the sky, deep beyond deep, like never-ending stars.' For him, for the people of Brookland, and for all of us, the bells were like stars lighting up the sky with faith, joy, and praise.

Revd Michael Burgess



What a joy it was to be part of Beach Mission again this year! We are so grateful for another fortnight of opportunities to welcome children and young people, build relationships, share the gospel and enjoy being part of what God is doing on the Isle of Man.

This year, 350 children and young people registered for Beach Mission, with an average of 188 children and teenagers attending each day. Morning and afternoon sessions regularly saw between 150 and 180 attending, and almost every session had a higher attendance than the equivalent session last year. Over 70 leaders from on-Island and further afield across the UK joined together to support the fortnight.

The weather was excellent throughout the fortnight, allowing all but one of our daily services to be held outdoors, either on the beach or by the Town Hall. In our daily beach services and drama (written by Alex Brown) we explored stories from John's Gospel starting with the Wedding at Cana through to Jesus' death and resurrection and ending with the giving of the Holy Spirit to the disciples. This introduced the children to Jesus' ministry on Earth in a fun, engaging and hopefully memorable way (including sardines, bread rolls and hungry seagulls!). We pray that they will go back into school life knowing of the love God has for them and that He is with them wherever they go. Annual favourites, including Dunk the Leader and Lost Leader, continued to bring plenty of fun and laughter across Port St Mary.

A highlight of the fortnight for the children is the Big Day Out, and this year 212 children joined us for different trips out across the Island. Seahorses (ages 3-4) and Turtles (ages 5-7) went to Poulson Park, Narwhals (ages 8-10) to Silverdale, Sharks (ages 11-12) to the Manx Fun Farm and Deckers (ages 13+) went to Laser Mayhem before going to Knockaloe Beg Farm. We had around 50 teenagers in Deckers, the largest number of teenagers we have ever had! On the last morning we finished with cake to celebrate Beach Mission's 126th birthday.

A huge thank you goes to all the churches, prayer partners, helpers and families across the Parish who supported Beach Mission. We are particularly grateful for the ongoing prayers and encouragement from local churches. Please continue to pray for the children and young people that the seeds planted during the week grow from the connections made at Beach Mission. Behind the numbers are hundreds of individual children and young people, each with their own stories, questions and experiences. We are thankful for every conversation, friendship, prayer, and opportunity to share the love and hope of Jesus with others.

To see more of what we got up to during the fortnight, visit our Facebook page We give thanks to God for all that He has made possible this year, and look forward to next year! Beach Mission 2027 will be from 1st-13th August.

https://www.facebook.com/psmbeachmission/?locale=en_GB .

Emily (Narwhal leader), Sophie, and Adam Meredith (Turtle leaders)

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



Heavenly Father, look in love on our friends and neighbours. Keep them from harm; bless them in all good things; give them your gifts of kindness and gentleness. Enfold our whole community, friends and strangers, in the peace that only you can give. And give us the wisdom to see your image in the eyes of everyone we meet, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen



September 2026

This is your opportunity to pray for:

- 1st Those who entertain us in theatres, on the sports field, or on television
- 2nd Children preparing for the new term at school
- 3rd Children in third world countries who need medical help in order to survive
- 4th People we know who are ill, or in pain, and are awaiting treatment
- 5th All who are confused in a world of multi-choice
- 6th That world leaders may set good examples
- 7th All who work in dangerous or hostile environments
- 8th Children taken into care and those left at risk
- 9th All whose sight and hearing are failing
- 10th That we may know God's presence in our homes
- 11th All missionaries both at home and abroad
- 12th The Pope and fellow Christians in the Roman Catholic Church
- 13th The fellowship experienced in our four churches
- 14th Integrity and fair dealing in world trade
- 15th The PCC Meeting being held this evening
- 16th Local singers and musicians
- 17th Our churchwardens and members of the PCC
- 18th The work of the Children's Society
- 19th All who work with children during court proceedings
- 20th Funeral directors and the work they do in helping the bereaved
- 21st Members of St Mary's Church Choir
- 22nd Children who have been baptised this summer, their parents and Godparents
- 23rd People who receive Holy Communion at home because they are housebound
- 24th Farmers preparing for the next few months after the lack of rain this summer
- 25th The United Nations and peace-keeping forces
- 26th Charities to which the Parish of Rushen subscribe
- 27th Peace throughout the world, especially in the Middle East
- 28th Those who go hungry because of failed harvests
- 29th Children of the parish who want to know more about Jesus and His wonderful work
- 30th Good harvests so that those who have been hungry because of famine can be fed

Services September/October 2026

6 th Sept. (Trinity 14)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
13 th Sept. (Trinity 15)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-Age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
20 th Sept. (Trinity 16)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
27 th Sept. (Trinity 17)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
4 th October (Trinity 18)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
11 th October (Harvest)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-Age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
18 th October (Trinity 20)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
25 th October (Trinity 21)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)

Services are correct at time of publication

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*Articles for the magazine should be submitted to the editor no later than **20th of each month**. This arrangement is subject to change.*

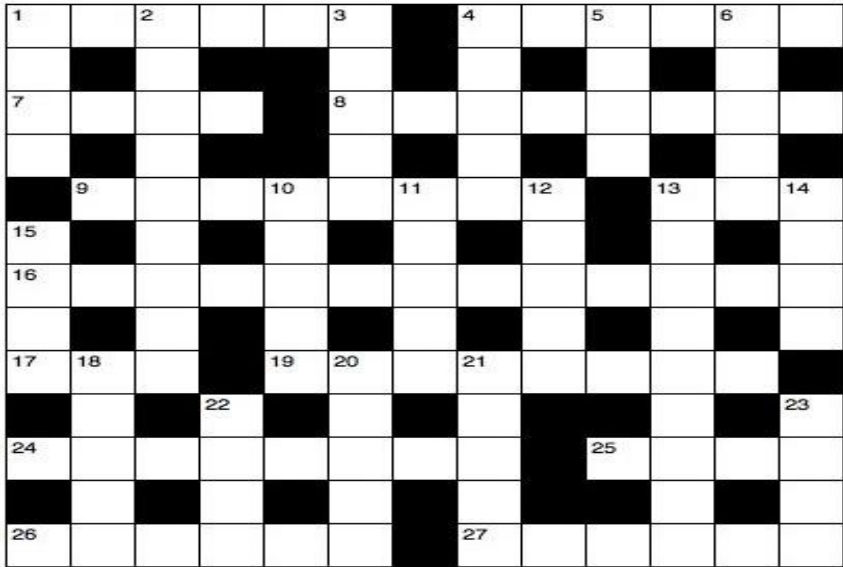
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Mr M D Porter, 10 Fairway Drive, Rowany, Port Erin 832143

Churchyard Enquiries:

Please contact Mr Harry Dawson: 478050/835770
or Mr G Callister: 474924/834627

Crossword September 2026



Across

- 1** 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
- 4** Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
- 7** 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)
- 8** It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)
- 9** Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
- 13** 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
- 16** Members of the Church of Scotland (13)
- 17** 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (Matthew 5:1) (3)
- 19** Mock (Luke 14:29)(8)
- 24** Disgrace (Psalm 44:13)(8)
- 25** First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus 13:4)(4)
- 26** Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)
- 27** Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

- 1** 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)
- 2** 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)

- 3** O raid (anag.) (5)
- 4** 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5)
- 5** Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)
- 6** What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)
- 10** 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5)
- 11** Do ten(anag.) (5)
- 12** Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)
- 13** Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)
- 14** 'Each one should — his own actions'(Galatians6:4)(4)
- 15** Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)
- 18** 'But I am afraid that just — — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)
- 20** Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts(5)
- 21** One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis46:17)(5)
- 22** Be distressed (Proverbs24:19)(4)
- 23** He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)