

# St Thomas', Trowbridge and St John's, West Ashton Monthly News August 2025

St Thomas  
Trowbridge

St John's  
West Ashton

Kingfisher



Holy Trinity  
Trowbridge



"Success is not final,  
failure is not fatal: it is  
the courage to  
continue that counts."  
— Winston Churchill.

## Summer – Exams - Rest

August is here! A month which can come with mixed emotions. My heart and prayers go out to all those receiving academic results later in the month. I hope you get everything you wanted, but remember your worth is already secure in Christ, no matter what happens. These words from Ephesians 2.10 spring to mind;

For we are God's **masterpiece**. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

We are God's masterpiece – isn't that incredible! Many of us don't often feel that way, but I believe that is the kind of language God would use to describe you. Our job is to step into those good things He has planned for us. May those doors open for all of us as we take each next step, secure in God's love, assured that He is always with us. Also, may we leave the closed doors, knowing that way is not for now.

The other side of August is often shaped with a different pace, perhaps spending a little more time with family and friends, even some time out in a different location. St Thomas' is doing just that, meeting over at Holy Trinity (the church-on-the-roundabout). Holidays and moves take planning and effort, yet usually also include opportunity for great reward. A change of pace, a change of focus, and different surroundings can all help us take an alternate perspective on our lives. Here lies the tension that change can be difficult, but also richly rewarding.

A small challenge I lay down for you is to come to church and see what that perspective change can bring to your life. If you are coming already, try a different seat (we all so often get stuck!), and be open to talking to new people. Like a summer holiday, the rhythm of coming to church can help align ourselves with a different way, a life-giving oasis in our everyday busyness.

We don't offer a magic wand, but we do spend time with Jesus who says these words (Matthew 11.28):

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest'

May your rest, or change of pace, be life-giving this summer. Let us continue to be open to God's fresh perspective in and through all we do.

Every blessing,

Simon.

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## Church Prayer Meetings and BCP

There will be no prayer meetings and BCP in August. The next prayer meetings will be Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September. The next BCP will be Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September



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Deadline for September's magazine: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

# St John's Update

Hello August - the first apple and blackberry crumble has been made - but what happened to July? July seemed a quiet month at St John's; we were blessed with two services, Revd. Elizabeth Bennet led our worship at the beginning of the month and our Holy Communion service was taken by Revd. Simon (His second visit, so we had not frightened him away!). West Ashton School Leavers/End of Term Service took place on the 18th July and it was heart-warming to listen to the leavers appraisal of their time in junior school. Of course the weather with the heat and lack of rain curtailed cutting the churchyard, but boy there are large cracks and uneven ground, making it somewhat a hazardous area. A new entrance poster was put on display and on 3 August, Revd. Ivor Hughes combined Lammas and The Transfiguration Of Our Lord into our service. (Lammas celebrates the first harvest of the year as the new loaves were brought into church to be blessed. Originally an Anglo-Saxon festival and the word Lammas is derived from Loaf Mass. The Transfiguration provides us a glimpse of Jesus going up a mountain with his closest disciples, Peter, John and James. It is called the Transfiguration because Jesus changed - his clothes became bright as a flash of lightening and the disciples saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. A cloud appeared and a voice saying "This is my Son, whom I have chosen: listen to him"). The service summarised these two events well and made the congregation reflect on their journey of faith.

Our next service will be on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> August - Holy Communion. We now head into the football season - with its highs and lows - expectations and disappointments. Can we say that we are a member of God's team - are we worthy to be in the squad - or is there room for improvement?

Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance - Jude 1:2  
Wishing you a safe and happy August.

Jean R

St John's  
celebrates  
Lammas



**WHEREVER YOU'VE  
BEEN. WHEREVER  
YOU'RE GOING.  
YOU'RE WELCOME  
HERE.**



# St Thomas' PCC meeting 8<sup>th</sup> July

**Summary of PCC Meeting – 8th July 2025 (the full minutes will be available once approved at the next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> September)**

The PCC of St Thomas' Church met on 8 July 2025, chaired for the first time by Simon Pope. The meeting opened with a reading from Isaiah and sung worship to help focus us on God's will. The PCC discussed its vision and agreed to include a vision document in the APCM booklet. Simon explained his plan to do as much business as possible outside of meetings so that the in person meetings can be more life giving and it was agreed to have a PCC day.

Amongst other matters the following were discussed:

It was confirmed that the administration, safeguarding finance and insurance of Impax is being transferred to St Thomas' after Urban Saints announced they are no longer overseeing groups.

Martyn W provided a Safeguarding update and all PCC members signed a diocesan code of conduct in relation to working with vulnerable adults and children.

Our treasurer Lyndsey W gave an update on the finances and reported that our income is still at a very good level largely due to one hirer. Overall expenditure is at 46% of the annual budget at the half- way point of the year.

Our church wardens gave an update on fabric issues and confirmed that a structural engineer has reported that there is no immediate need to stop using the hall however it may not be financially viable to repair. A smaller committee will meet with Simon to discuss the future of the church buildings including considering plans drafted some time ago.

Simon now has an overview of all the various missions the church is involved with and it was agreed that at each meeting we will focus on reports from 2 or 3 groups each time. Martyn is consulting those

involved in youth and family work to increase connectivity and consider the viability of a potential youth or families' worker. Simon is very encouraged by all the groups.

Simon reported increasing church attendance both in person and online. He is keen to have a strong emphasis on welcome and small groups.

We finished the meeting with compline and Simon did well to keep the meeting to just a few minutes over the planned 2 hours. It was a very encouraging first meeting!

Harriet H

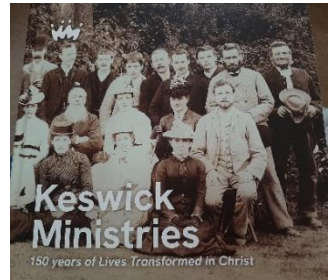
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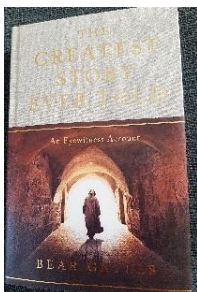


# 150<sup>th</sup> Keswick Convention

What an amazing time away in Keswick. We attended Week One of the Convention; we studied the Book of James in the morning meeting which was taken by Andy Gemmil. James is a tough, hard-hitting, challenging book full of bad behaviour but also with practical solutions. In the evening celebration we had different speakers who worked their way through John 14 – 16. In both these meetings they did a spot called 150 years in 150 words, taking us from its beginning up to today. Each time we then sang a hymn that would have been sung in 1875; a number of times we sung these unaccompanied which was amazing hearing 5000 voices raised in praise. They have produced a book called Keswick Ministries 150 years of Lives Transformed in Christ (cost £10), with loads of old photos. For each decade they have done a profile on one of the speakers, including John Stott who spoke there in 1965 and then did his last ever speaking engagement there in 2007 aged 86.



The Keswick Convention was started in 1875 by Rev Thomas Dundas Harford-Battersby, vicar of St John's Keswick. After attending a conference in Oxford he was transformed. He returned to Keswick full of zeal and with the help of Robert Wilson planned and delivered the first Convention three weeks later! He pitched a tent in the vicarage garden to hold the Convention never knowing that it would one day be held at the Pencil Factory, that the Convention would be held for three weeks and 5000 would attend each week; plus Conventions would be held around the world. What an awesome work of God. It is the only Convention that it is free at the point of entry. They tell you how much it costs per adult for the week and then it is over to you pay what you can afford, even if that is nothing. Every year the costs are met, what an amazing and faithful God we have.





We have come home with a number of books ... now need to find some room on the bookshelves to hold them. We picked up the book *The Greatest Story Ever Told* by Bear Grylls. He has retold the gospel but has not altered Jesus' words. It is a great read, very gripping. I recommend it to you.

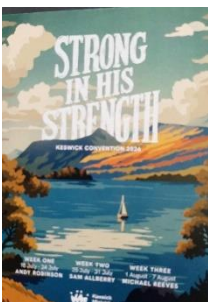


We drove up in a heatwave to Keswick and stayed three miles out at Dalebottom Farm in beautiful surroundings. We made use of the local bus to get us in and out of town. It was fun in the evening because we didn't know which would happen first, the bus arriving, the cows crossing the road after milking or the milk tanker to do his pick-up.



Most days it was the cows ... sometimes they were headed to the bus stop instead of the gateway ... obviously fancied a trip to Grasmere!

Tuesday we resumed normal Lake District weather resulting in six inches of rain falling in the two hours we were at the evening meeting. We could only exit the marquee by the front two doors and the volunteers guided us across the site to the road. There was flooding, just up to the pavement, in the road where we caught the bus. We then continued to have a mix of showers and sun. On the Saturday we drove home in the rain until we got to the M4.



If you fancy being a volunteer you are treated well. You are put up in a cottage, B&B or a room in their converted old offices and are fed three times a day. It's a long day you work but talking to some of the volunteers they love being there. These are some of the tasks you can apply for welcomer/steward, children/youth leader, admin, finance and technology. Have a look on their website

[www.keswickministries.org](http://www.keswickministries.org) or have a chat with Ivor. This year's theme was Transformed next year the theme is Strong in His Strength.

Val S

# Trowbridge Street Pastors

How would you like to have fun with Jesus? Are you being called to help people in need? Would you like to find a different way to talk to people who wouldn't normally go near a church? Then maybe becoming a Street Pastor is exactly what you need to do.



I'll be honest – it is a calling and it is a commitment, including undertaking extensive training, having an interview and a DBS check. We need people who really feel called to go out on the streets of Trowbridge late at night, talking to strangers, listening to them and helping them. You may feel nervous or unsure about it, but do give it a try and see if you perceive that call and, truth be told, we really need you!

There has been a Street Pastors Initiative operating in Trowbridge since 2009, but our numbers have gone down, especially since Covid. Currently we have 9 active Street Pastors and have had to reduce our patrols to every fortnight, on a Saturday night. However, each Street Pastor would, generally, only go out on patrol once a month.

Our Chair, David Goldstone, always says that we have fun with Jesus out on patrol; and that is true. I have seen potentially confrontational situations turn into something completely different, even ending in laughter. We certainly each know that we absolutely could not do this without Jesus being with us, or without the Holy Spirit within us. *The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.* Deuteronomy 31:8 NIV UK.

One of the great privileges of being a Street Pastor is that we are on the front line between the world and God's Kingdom and we meet people on *their* patch. We can have really good conversations about why we do what we do, for no pay, which is so counter cultural that people are really taken aback. We have the opportunity to show

people God's love, in action, which is truly wonderful. So, if you would like to know more then please contact the Coordinator, Julia Wade, on 01380 870137 or email [trowbridge@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:trowbridge@streetpastors.org.uk) If you would like to hear a short talk about our work in your church, then ask your leader to book us. You are welcome to come out as an observer to see for yourself what we do, without any obligation to take it further.

Julia W

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## **The Deep Love of Jesus**

O deep, deep love of Jesus,  
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!  
Rolling as a mighty ocean, in its fullness over me:  
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love -  
Leading onwards, leading homeward to Thy glorious rest  
above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
Spread His praise from shore to shore - how He loveth,  
Changeth never, How He watches ov'er His loved ones.  
Died to call them all His own; How for them He intercedeth,  
Watcheth ov'er them from the throne!

O deep, deep love of Jesus,  
Love of every love the best! 'Tis an ocean vast of blessing -  
'Tis a haven sweet of rest.  
O deep, deep love of Jesus, 'Tis a heaven of heavens to me:  
And it lifts me to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee.

Author Unknown - found on a bookmark.

# The Bible Society

Gordon and I were invited to The Bible Society Offices at Swindon for a Volunteer Celebration Lunch. This lunch was to say a “thank you” to the many volunteers who fund raise, pray for and help to promote the work of the Bible Society. We also had presentations including the New Edition Bible Course and The Quiet Revival. An interesting quote from The Quiet Revival Report which has been compiled over six years, states “We found that the Church is in a period of rapid growth, driven by young adults and in particular by young men”.

As it appeared that Gordon was the longest serving volunteer present (48 Years as Treasurer of the Trowbridge Action Group) he was asked by Gareth D (who spoke to St T’s in February) to cut the celebration cake.

Over lunch we were given a quiz to test our knowledge and I set it out below. Give it a try ! Answers at the end.

1. In which year was the Bible Society founded?  
A) 1804                      B) 1806                      C) 1808
2. Before the war the Ukrainian Bible Society was distributing 700 Bibles a day, seven days a week. Now they are distributing 2,500 a day but the demand is greater. How many Bibles do they actually need each day to keep up with demand?  
A) 2,800                      B) 3,900                      C) 5,000
3. Our Open The Book volunteers go into schools and bring the stories of the Bible to life with drama and participation. How many Open The Book volunteers are there?  
A) Over 9,000              B) Over 7,000              C) Over 4,000
4. The United Bible Societies across the world believe that the Bible is God’s gift to the world. We want everyone to discover its message for themselves in a language they can understand. How many translation projects are we currently working on?  
A) 400                        B) 300                        C) 240

**5.** The Patmos World Bible Attitudes Survey conducted interviews with 91,000 individuals across 85 countries and territories representing 3.8 billion people to understand the global religious landscape. How many Christians do not own a Bible in a language they can understand?

- A) 1 in 10                      B) 1 in 6                      C) 1 in 4

**6.** Through the Patmos Survey we learnt about people's understanding and use of the Bible. In Asia what percentage of people have never heard of the Bible?

- A) 34%                      B) 56%                      C) 68%

**7.** There are many places in the world where being a Christian is very dangerous and yet despite restrictions and repression, people are turning to Jesus and becoming Christians. One such country is Iran. How many people is it estimated are coming to faith in Iran every day?

- A) 200                      B) 1000                      C) 2000

**8.** The British & Foreign Bible Society is just one of how many Bible Societies across the world?

- A) 74                      B) 156                      C) 188

**9.** Each year Bible Society has the honour of sponsoring the National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast in Westminster. How many MP's did we have this year?

- A) 110                      B) 140                      C) 170

And here is a question I have added!

**10.** In what year was the Trowbridge support group of The British & Foreign Bible Society (now known as Trowbridge Action Group) formed?

- A) 1852                      B) 1814                      C) 1884



Hi everyone. Here's a list of items that would be most useful as donations to Ruksak. Please remember to check used items before giving them. No food please. Larger furniture items can be taken to Group 5. There is a donations box at the front entrance. Financial contributions are also gladly accepted (see Martin)

**Shoes and clothing:** Used items, all ages, but especially for boys 4-11. New items might be socks and underwear. Bags,

**Kitchen/electrical items:** Toasters, microwaves, kettles, hoovers, radios, small TVs (not irons) mixers) we will PAT test but should be in good working order. Small gadgets, tin-openers, serving spoons, saucepans and frying pans, cutlery, serving dishes. Cutlery sets please and the same with china (sets better than single items).

**Toiletries/cleaning:** (All new/unopened) Soaps, shampoos, shower gels, sanitary items, toothpaste and brushes, nappies (larger sizes useful) washing-up liquid, washing pods, sponges, anti-bac sprays etc.

**Bedding/drapery/camping:** Single duvets in particular, pillows, curtains, sheets, duvet covers, sleeping bags, camping items.

**Toys, books and games.** Please check games/jigsaws are complete. Educational books and games too. Stationery too.

**Baby Items:** Monitors, pushchairs, prams, sterilizers, but no cots please.

Thanks - Martin



## MEN's BREAKFAST

Saturday October 18th

Rev RON CROSS

*My name is Ron Cross, Born in '72 and reborn in '04 and I work in Church Relations for Open Doors, an NGO that helps the church to pray, give, and speak out for those who share our faith but not our freedom. I'm excited to share with you some details of my recent trip to Northern Nigeria – where men face most violence for being followers of Jesus.*

*I'm an ordained minister in the Church of England and have pastored churches in London, Bristol, Devon and Los Angeles.*

*I've been married to Ro for 27 years now and we have two fabulous children. Our daughter is studying for an MA at Sussex and is working at Christian Aid and our son is studying sports coaching at Wembley University.*

*Every day, over 380 million Christians risk their lives to follow Jesus. In more than 70 countries, Open Doors supports them by supplying Bibles, providing emergency relief, and helping persecuted believers stand strong for the long-term so that they can continue to proclaim Jesus as Saviour.*



Bookings for the October Breakfast open on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

You need to put this Breakfast in your diaries – one not to be missed!!

### PRAYER and FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Bethesda Baptist Church

Next Meeting: **Wednesday August 13th**

We start at 7.00pm with tea & coffee and a short time of catch-up fellowship. After a brief introduction - we enthusiastically sing a couple of songs. There is much to pray and give thanks for, allocating some 20-minute slots to focus on various prayer topics - including our Leaders at Local and National levels. This is always a challenge with so much to pray about. We attempt to finish up at 8.30pm – but this is sometimes a challenge.

For further details, contact Gordon Stanford:  
[thestanfords@talktalk.net](mailto:thestanfords@talktalk.net)

**Special Note – If you park in the Church Carpark – be sure to register your car – on the screen located just inside the door.**

### Lunch Club



Wednesday August 27th.

12.30pm in The Kings Arms  
Castle Street, Trowbridge BA14 8AN

To be added to the mailing list please contact Geoff Tate who will send you a menu.

01225 755054  
[geofftate40@gmail.com](mailto:geofftate40@gmail.com)

We ask men to book their meal a few days before the event – The Lunch Club is very popular, and places are limited.

You can buy a drink at 12.30pm – the food, which is delicious, is served at about 12.50pm.





## THOUGHTS for AUGUST

### THE DIVINE WEAVER

My life is but a weaving between my Lord and me;  
I cannot choose the colours He works so skillfully.  
Oft times He weaveth sorrow and I, in foolish pride,  
Forget that He sees the upper, and I the underside.

Not till the loom is silent and the shuttle cease to fly,  
Shall God unroll the canvas and explain the reason why,  
The dark threads are as needful in the weavers skillful hand,  
As the threads of gold and silver in the pattern He has planned

B.M. Franklin

- *The UK has fresh challenges coming to light every day. We continue to pray that the different parties in government will all pull together, along with all those in authority, and the general public – to improve the NHS.*
- *We pray for our country's relationship in the International Arena. Immigration is a serious challenge but help us to continue to offer financial assistance to the many poorer countries across the World.*
- *Thank you, Heavenly Father, for the wonderful experience we have enjoyed, in MENUNITED-Trowbridge over the last 15 years, and the growing network of contacts we have over the region BA14 and further afield. Help us Heavenly Father, to stay on track into the future - the pathway that You want us to follow.*
- *Help us, as Christians, to be witnesses – to our families, and those on our Frontline – of Christ in our lives.*
- *Help us to be bridges, man-to-man, but also to show people the pathway to God, through Jesus.*
- *Help us to put relationships high on our agenda, with other Christians, but also with those who are trying to find a direction in their lives.*
- *We pray for a lasting peace between Israel and Palestine – satisfactory to members of both nations.*
- *We pray for a move towards peace between Ukraine and Russia.*
- *We pray for a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Iran and the Nuclear threat.*

### REMAINING EVENTS at Trowbridge RFC

*There is a break of several months for the Rugby World Cup*

**Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup>**

#### **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

**Rev Ron Cross**

*Church relations – Open Doors UK and Ireland  
(Bookings open September 1<sup>st</sup>)*

**Friday November 21<sup>st</sup>**

#### **CURRY EVENING**

**Mike Saffery**

*Church of the True Vine, Clevedon*

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KEEPING IN TOUCH with MENUNITED-Trowbridge

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [menutrow@gmail.com](mailto:menutrow@gmail.com)

<https://menunited-ba14.uk/home-page>

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# Kadugli Newsletter and Prayer Diary

**“Please do not grow tired of praying for Sudan” (Archbishop Ezekiel)**

## **Recent News on Sudan.**

Watching the news on BBC, we are rightly horrified by scenes from Gaza of violence, starvation, desperate crowds trying to obtain some of the very little food available, and a sense that this all could be averted. Truly words cannot do justice to this evil. If only it were an isolated case. But it isn't.

In Sudan, this kind of thing has been going on for nearly two and a half years. It is not focussed on a relatively small area, but across a thinly spread but many times larger country. Recent estimates are that of a population of about 47 million, about 7.7 million have been displaced just during the current conflict. Food is desperately short, and people are reduced to eating leaves. Relief agencies do what they can, but they are hampered by the conflicting parties and even to some extent by ill-considered acts of their own governments. Food can sometimes get through, but then it is very expensive.

Kadugli (the town of Kadugli, not the diocese) in South Kordofan remains cut off from aid amid worsening fighting and hunger. Armed groups attempted to seize food from markets, adding to the desperation. And still the conflict goes on.

Where to next?  
This year the civil

war has seen the army (SAF) consolidating its grip on the north and east of the country, and beginning to push towards the south. It is worth pointing



out that much of the south comprises the provinces of North Kordofan, West Kordofan, and South Kordofan, and that South Kordofan includes the diocese of Kadugli. Much of South Kordofan runs along the border with South Sudan, but there is one area claimed by both Sudan and South Sudan; it is the town of Heglig (so called by Sudan) or Panthou (its South Sudanese name). If it is regarded as Sudanese, it is probably part of South Kordofan province. In either case, it lies about 75 miles as the crow flies from the town of Kadugli. Heglig (we shall use this name for simplicity) and its environs are major parts of the oil fields of the region and therein lies its current relevance. The oil fields are controlled by the SAF, but the SAF's recent attacks on nearby RSF-controlled towns have caused the RSF to threaten to attack Heglig.

Already for strategic reasons the SAF are looking to advance southwards from the region of El Obeid and Dilling, but the threat to Heglig and its oil gives a further reason, and presents the prospect of further violence in Kadugli Diocese; it therefore becomes a matter for prayer.

### **What about Kadugli Diocese?**

There is little news from Kadugli at present. Radio Dabanga has reported that the town of Kadugli is cut off from aid amid worsening fighting and hunger. Armed groups attempted to seize food from markets, intensifying the desperation, and it is difficult to obtain food there. Over the diocese as a whole Bishop Hassan reports that there is a lot of sickness currently. He is providing food for all the centres each month. Dilling is on the road from El Obeid to Kadugli, and he mentions difficulty recently in getting food for Dilling because of the military presence. The money we send to them is literally keeping them alive, and they are very grateful to us.

Bishop Hassan continues to be very conscious of the dangers the population face. The population has been living, and no doubt continues to live, in fear. These are people like us, with families whom they wish to keep safe now, and to educate so they can prosper as adults. But conditions remain hard in Kadugli, and in particular for Christians there. As a general rule in Sudan, Christians seem to be discriminated against when any aid is given. Aid, indeed, is in short supply, and we in Bradford Deanery make a point of targeting the church in Kadugli.

We continue to support the people of Kadugli in their search for desperately needed food and other essentials, and in addition, we have been supporting

Hassan's son Yassa with help for his fees for his course at a university in Uganda. For administrative and other reasons any money given for Hassan's son Yassa would need to be kept distinct from other funds, so anyone wishing to donate for Yassa can use the same payment details as for other funds for Kadugli, but with the reference "Yassa" instead of "Kadugli."

Across Bradford Deanery there has been a continuous warm and generous response to this need; thank you all. The church in Kadugli is intensely grateful for our support, both financial and in prayer. Please continue to give via your church if you can, or directly. The account details are:

Bank: Lloyds Bank Trowbridge  
Name of Account: Bradford Deanery  
Sort Code: 30-98-75  
Account No. 00710285 Reference Kadugli. Or, as mentioned above, Yassa. (N.B. This is important)

Please also consider ways of raising funds for Kadugli. And as always, we ask you to pray.

## **Prayer Diary**

**"Please do not grow tired of praying for Sudan" (Archbishop Ezekiel)**

We continue to pray for the nation of Sudan, that God will put an end to the warfare and lawlessness, and bring about peace and tolerance instead of conflict, greed and intransigence. Above all, we pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts and minds of the people there and to bring them to a saving knowledge of God in Christ Jesus.

We pray especially for the Diocese of Kadugli and for the Christians there, for their protection and for the provision of food and medicine and other necessities of life, and especially that God will uphold them in their Christian faith.

We pray that the oil in Heglig will not become an occasion for further violence.

We also pray for the young people of Kadugli and for their education, and that God will provide them with hope for their future.

# The Quiet Garden at Great Chalfield

## September 2025 - July 2026

A place and a time for prayer, silence, reflection, and the opportunity to listen to God and appreciate his creation.



First Tuesday of the month, ten times a year.

### Do you need

Time to reflect,  
A quiet place,  
Space to be alone,  
Someone to listen,  
Somewhere to pray?

### We offer

A led reflection,  
Peace and stillness,  
Solitude, a beautiful garden,  
Someone to talk to, if you wish,  
Shelter from the elements in the  
medieval parish church.

### The details for the day

You are very welcome to stay for as much or as little of the day as you wish.

09:30 Welcome and refreshments  
10:00 Opening prayer and theme, followed by silence  
Noon Lunch (please bring your own); hot drinks available  
12:45 Meet in the church followed by silence  
13:00 Prayer and reflection  
13:30 Silence in the church or garden  
14:30 Depart



### Invited speakers

#### 2025

September 2nd Triss Horwood, Pastor ministering nationally and internationally  
October 7th Canon David Driscoll, semi-retired Minister  
November 4th Bishop John Inge, retired Bishop of Worcester. Co-created a Quiet Garden at the Bishop's House  
December 2nd Sharon Firth, Group Facilitator, Trainer & retired Pastor

#### 2026

February 3rd Revd Ron & Mrs Creddie Hart, former Rector of Broughton Gifford, Great Chalfield & Holt St Katharine  
March 3rd Canon Andrew Evans, Rector of Broughton Gifford, Great Chalfield & Holt St Katharine  
April 7th Jean Freeborn, Trustee for multiple Ministries & Churches  
May 5th Revd Richard Hovey, spiritual accompanier  
June 2nd Revd Jenny Nelson FRSA, Rector of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood & Wingfield  
July 7th Jenny Davis, retired Priest & spiritual accompanier

## Great Chalfield Quiet Garden

is affiliated to the Quiet Garden Trust

### The Quiet Garden Prayer

Oh Lord Jesus, true gardener,  
work in us what you want of us,  
For you are indeed the true  
gardener, at once maker and tiller,  
and keeper of your garden.  
You, who plant with the Word,  
water with the Spirit and give  
your increase with your power.  
Amen

The Quiet Garden at Great Chalfield provides a welcoming space in which we can leave our normal lives behind for a while. Here we can pray, rest in God's presence, hear from Him and have an encounter with Jesus in this beautiful place.

Although the Quiet Garden is a Christian organisation, we welcome everyone. A donation, to cover our expenses, is greatly appreciated.

For more information please ring: Julia Wade on (01380) 870137 or Anthony Matthew (01225) 782082 or email [anthony55matthewfcn@gmail.com](mailto:anthony55matthewfcn@gmail.com)



## Great Chalfield Manor

Great Chalfield Manor is a 15<sup>th</sup> century National Trust House, steeped in history, with beautiful gardens. The parish church dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century and is located in the grounds. On Quiet Garden days the grounds are open to us by kind permission of Robert & Patsy Floyd and the National Trust.



*Jill Wright*

Robert Floyd writes:

"Many visitors comment on the peaceful quality of All Saints Church and we pray that you will enjoy the quiet days here and return home refreshed".

A previous speaker writes:

"It is a uniquely special experience that breathes the peace of God into our busy lives and gives time and space for reflection. How blessed we are to have such a resource in our vicinity!"

## Where are we?

The postcode for Great Chalfield is SN12 8NH

From **Melksham** take the B3107, turn right through Broughton Gifford, past the Common, and then turn left to Great Chalfield (1 mile).

From **Bradford on Avon** take the B3107 towards Holt, at the small roundabout in Holt go straight on, then immediately first left, right again at the turning to Great Chalfield, right at the T-junction. After about 1 mile Great Chalfield is on the left.

From **Trowbridge** take the B3105 to Staverton. Turn right to Holt, then at the roundabout by the Tollgate pub turn right, then immediately left, right and right again, as above.

## Useful websites

For the Manor: [www.greatchalfield.co.uk](http://www.greatchalfield.co.uk)  
For the Quiet Garden Trust: [www.quietgarden.org](http://www.quietgarden.org)  
For the Church: [www.faithinourvillage.org](http://www.faithinourvillage.org)

## **Bible Society Quiz Answers:**

1.(A). 2. (C). 3. (B) 4. (A). 5. (C). 6.(B). 7. (C). 8. (B). 9. (C).  
10. (B)

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## **A Wiltshire Benedicite (A Moonraker's Country Blessing)**

**“O All Ye Works Of The Lord, Bless Ye The Lord”**

Wiltshire - Bless The Lord

All Parishes and Deaneries, Downland and Vale

Watermeadow and Arable Field - Bless The Lord

All You Tiny Things - Bless The Lord

Dragonfly and Jenny Wren

Ladybird, Pollen Dust, Pygmy Shrew, Barley Awn

Lizard and Grass Seed - Bless the Lord

All You Big Things - Bless The Lord

Salisbury Cathedral and Wilton Windmill

Old Sarum, Savernake Forest,

Wylde, Nadder and Avon Rivers - Bless The Lord



All You Soft Things - Bless The Lord

Snowflake, Thistledown

April Showers and Summer Rain

Hay Bales, Silage Bags, Sheep Fleece and Baby Goslings - Bless The Lord

All You Slow Things - Bless The Lord

Friesian, Guernsey and Charolais Cattle

A Winter Thaw, A Late Spring Which Never Seems To Come - Bless The Lord

All You Swift and Graceful Things - Bless The Lord

Roe Deer and Hare, Swallow, House Martin

Sparrow Hawk and Thoroughbred Horse - Bless The Lord

All You Loud Things - Bless The Lord

Combine Harvester, Tractor and Baler

Winter Storms, Barking Foxes, Dawn Chorus

The Call Of A Cock Pheasant - Bless The Lord

All You Quiet Things - Bless The Lord

A Country Pond, Drifting Clouds, A New Born Calf

The Flight Of A Barn Owl, Butterflies In An Old Meadow

The Quivering Of The Aspen Leaf - Bless The Lord

And All You Wondrous Creatures That Never Talk - Bless The Lord

And Companion Animals and Mysterious Ones - Always Bless The Lord

**Praise and Extol Him Forever and Ever. Amen**

# WHO AM I?

*Who am I, I hear you ask  
Peering from my vacuum flask  
Snug and safe from all intrusion  
No ingression, no confusion  
Allow you near to know my name  
Light specifics is my game  
Try to rummage, I invert  
Raise my shield to stop the hurt.*

*Fear and envy clothe my soul  
But the past has taken toll  
I'm a jelly easily shaken  
Worth and confidence forsaken  
Come on in, but stay away  
I'm not brave enough today  
All this talk of God is fine  
But He's not a friend of mine.*

*Why?, if He created me  
Did He forget to oversee  
The blooming of this butterfly  
Free to live and touch the sky  
Someone who is not afraid  
To be an equal, debts all paid  
Open, friendly, loving, kind  
Patient, tender, clear of mind.*

*Come, Lord Jesus, break this mold  
Breathe Your warmth into this cold  
Draw me from the shadows deep  
Shine Your light upon this creep  
I want beauty, I want joy  
Oh to be Your little boy  
Start Your journey to my soul  
Before the darkness takes its toll.*