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October 2025

The Trident



The Parish Magazine of



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St Thomas the Apostle Church of England

Boston Road, Hanwell

For more Information

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OUR CHURCH IS OPEN TO ALL FOR
Sunday Parish Mass 10am
Evening Prayer Sunday 6.30pm
Said Mass Tuesday at Noon



A prayer for October

Heavenly Father, as we step into the new month of October, we embrace it as a season of transformation and revelation. October marks a shift in the natural world, with leaves changing colours and cooler breezes, reminding us that change is an integral part of Your divine design.

As nature reveals its beauty and prepares for the winter, let our spirits also be prepared for the shifts and turns that come our way. Lord, let this month be a time of introspection, growth, and renewal.

Just as the trees shed their leaves, help us to let go of any burdens, regrets, or negative thoughts that might hinder our progress. As we witness Your creation transition gracefully, may we also move with grace, adaptability, and faith throughout this month and beyond.

In Jesus' name. Amen

Copy Dates

Copy date for November will be Sunday 12th October

Copy date for December will be Sunday 9th November

Copy date for January will be Sunday 14th December

Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Church, the Vicar, the editors or the PCC.

Adverts in this magazine are not necessarily endorsed by the Church, the Vicar, the editors or the PCC.



From Rev Julia

The Season Of Creation

Dear friends,

As we enter the month of October, many churches will spend some time focusing on the Harvest and the 'wonder of creation'. For a while now, the Church of England has named this period of time 'Creationtide', or the Season of Creation, where we give thanks to God for his gift to us in creation. As well as giving thanks for everything he provides for us to live, this season gives us an opportunity to recommit ourselves to care for all that God has made. It is about caring for the world that we live in and the environment.

One of the marks of mission for the Church of England is 'to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth'. So maybe this month we could be extra aware of what we can do to help our environment. In the magazine this month there is information about the 'Eco Church' of which we are members. We have received the bronze award and are working towards the silver. If you would like to get involved see the contact in the magazine.

One of the resources for this season is this lovely prayer:

In every acorn

there is the potential for a forest;

In every apple pip

there is the potential for an orchard;

In every soul

there is the potential for your kingdom

to be established;

full of joy and peace and love.

Lord, may your kingdom come

in us and in all your creation.

So during the month of October, I encourage you to be grateful for what you have, be mindful of what you can do to make the environment a better place, but also be generous to others. Any harvest provision given to the church will be given to the Foodbank.

With Blessings, and prayers,

Rev Julia Palmer

Parish News

Recent Highlights

Building Progress

The church roof and hall repairs have been moving at a real pace, with most works now either completed or close to completion – a milestone that will serve our parish well for years to come.

Family Celebrations

We rejoice with Revd Julia and her family on the arrival of a new grandchild, and send warm congratulations to Adriana and Mark on the birth of *Thomasina Mabel Davoren*, bringing joy and blessing into the Vicarage.

BEAT Arts Festival

The early September weekends brought colour and creativity as St Thomas' hosted the 4020 Group as part of the BEAT Arts Festival. Their exhibition was of an amazing standard and much enjoyed by all who visited. We look forward to welcoming them – or other local artists – again next year.

Education Sunday

Our Parish Family Mass for Education Sunday was filled with thanksgiving for the gift of learning and for all who nurture it. We honoured pupils, teachers, parents, support staff, and community members, celebrating the strong partnerships between schools and churches. At this service, we were also delighted to welcome Rowland Linder our Pastoral Assistant and Youth Outreach Lead into our parish family.

Ongoing Life & Looking Ahead

Bible Study & Reflection

Our Wednesday groups continue in the Lady Chapel, where we are exploring the Gospel of Mark in a welcoming and prayerful setting. Afternoon (2.00–3.30pm) and evening (7.00–8.30pm) sessions are offered, each with tea and biscuits, and the evening concludes with Compline. All are warmly welcome – come with your Bible, your questions, and your curiosity.

Eco Church

September's "Bread Bag Blitz" encourages everyone to bring in plastic bread bags for recycling via Terracycle.

Ealing Climate Week (20–28 September) will include a St Thomas' Litter Pick on **Sunday 28 September (Feast of St Michael & All Angels)** at 10am.



We will mark **Fair Trade Fortnight** at our *Parish Family Mass for Harvest Festival* on **Sunday 5 October at 10am**.

Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 11 October – *Table Sale* in the morning, followed by a *Harvest Ceilidh Barn Dance* in the evening (see details on page 14)

Saturday 15 November – *Quiz Night* (see details on page 8)

And with all this, Advent and Christmas preparation is only just around the corner! Much to look forward to in the life of St Thomas' in the weeks and months ahead.

The brave Desmond Doss of Hacksaw Ridge

Eighty years ago, on 12th October 1945, US Army combat medic Desmond Doss became the first conscientious objector in US history to receive a Medal of Honour for heroic actions. He saved the lives of 75 men during the Battle of Okinawa. The film *Hacksaw Ridge* told his story.

Doss was born in Virginia in 1919, and became a strong believer in the Bible, especially the Ten Commandments. As a devout Seventh Day Adventist and conscientious objector, he determined to join the Army after Pearl Harbour – his goal being to save as many lives as possible, and to kill no-one.

He enlisted as a medic and refused to carry a rifle, despite receiving abuse from his fellow soldiers and officers. This diminished when it became clear that he bore no grudges and was the first to help when anyone got into difficulty.

He served in combat on the islands of Guam, Leyte, and Okinawa – but it was the last that was most remarkable, because the fighting took place on the top of a sheer 400ft cliff with booby traps and hidden machine gun nests. Doss refused to retreat with his battalion and kept on returning to the battlefield before lowering injured comrades down the cliff (known as Hacksaw Ridge). He thought he had saved 50 men – praying aloud each time “Lord, please help me get one more”. His comrades thought he had saved 100: the official report split the difference.

Of the 16 million Americans in uniform during World War Two, only 431 received the Congressional Medal of Honour. Before leaving the Army Doss had contracted tuberculosis, and eventually he had to have a lung and five ribs removed. He lived with one lung to the age of 87.

All in the month of October

It was:

750 years ago, on 27th Oct 1275 that the city of Amsterdam in the Netherlands is traditionally considered to have been founded.

200 years ago, on 25th Oct 1825 that Johann Strauss II, was born. This Austrian composer is best known for his waltzes, including *The Blue Danube*.

125 years ago, on 20th Oct 1900 that the American aviation pioneers the Wright Brothers made their first untethered glider flight at Kill Devil Hills, in North Carolina.

100 years ago, on 13th Oct 1925 that Margaret Thatcher, Baroness Thatcher, was born. She was the first woman Prime Minister of Britain (1979-90). (Died 2013.)

80 years ago, on 12th Oct 1945 that US Army combat medic Desmond Doss became the first conscientious objector in US history to receive a Medal of Honour for heroic actions. He saved the lives of 75 men during the Battle of Okinawa. The film *Hacksaw Ridge* told his story.

60 years ago, on 8th Oct 1965 that the Post Office Tower (now the BT Tower) in London was officially opened. It was the tallest building in the UK until 1980.

40 years, on 26th Oct 1985 that the Australian government returned the ownership of Uluru / Ayers Rock to the local Pitjantjatjara people, on condition that they lease it to the National Parks and Wildlife Agency for 99 years and allow it to be jointly managed.

20 years ago, on 18th to 26th Oct 2005 that Hurricane Wilma, the most intense Atlantic hurricane ever recorded, hit the Caribbean, Central America and the eastern USA. 63 people died. The storm caused £18.1 billion worth of damage.

15 years ago, on 13th Oct 2010 that 33 Chilean miners who had been trapped underground for 69 days following the collapse of the San Jose copper-gold mine were rescued. Around one billion TV viewers around the world watched them being pulled to the surface one-by-one, in a specially designed capsule.

Christian concern after UN fails to reach agreement on the problem of plastic

The recent UN talks in Geneva were intended to finalise a legally binding agreement for countries to tackle plastic pollution. Almost 190 countries were represented.

But despite ten days of negotiations, no consensus was reached. A small number of oil-producing nations, including Russia and Saudi Arabia, blocked key proposals on reducing plastic production and phasing out hazardous chemicals.

Christian campaigning charities have been among those expressing great concern. They warn that the failure will have grave consequences for vulnerable communities and the natural world.

Tearfund says that more than two billion people around the world lack access to safe waste disposal. Mismanaged plastic waste, often dumped or burned, contributes, the charity's research suggests, to up to a million deaths a year — one every 30 seconds.

Terracycle Recycling at St Thomas' Church

Raising money for church and Hall repairs



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<https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB>



St Thomas'

Quiz night

Saturday November 15th

7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start

Come as a team or we can put you in a team

£20 adults; £15 children under 14

Fish and chip supper included but please bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles.

For more details or to book, please contact

sue.cunningham@mac.com

07850 889948

Or

Speak to Sarah or Sue
after church





Eco Celebration - Success & October Actions!

We're delighted to share that our **Bronze Eco Award celebration** on 7 September was not only a joyful occasion but also a meaningful one — we raised **over £40 for the RSPB**, supporting vital work to protect birds and wildlife across the UK. A huge thank you to everyone who baked or bought a cake!

Looking ahead to **October**, here are three simple ways you can continue to support the environment:

Join the Ealing Wildlife Group Stay connected with local nature lovers and keep an eye out for events, walks, and conservation activities such as Beaver Safaris happening nearby. For more information, see [Ealing Wildlife Group](#)

Support Fair Trade Fortnight Whether at Church or in your shopping choices, look out for Fair Trade products to help ensure ethical and sustainable practices around the world. We'll be hosting our very own Fair Trade Fortnight event at Church to coincide with Harvest Festival on 5th October! Come and visit our Fairtrade information and tasting table in the hall after the service. For more information, see [Fairtrade Fortnight](#)

Celebrate the Harvest Season Locally Try sourcing produce from local farms or markets, such as the Ealing Farmers' Market every Saturday [London Farmers' Markets](#) | [Ealing Farmers' Market](#). Or, if you've a bit of green space, think about planting something now to harvest next year. Herbs, garlic, and winter greens are great starters!

Let's keep the momentum going and keep moving towards our Silver Award!

From the Pop-In

Are you free to volunteer on a Wednesday or Friday morning? Come and join us serving tea, coffee, cake and company to the elderly of Hanwell. If you're interested please email Sarah Stephens at mail4stephens@gmail.com

As you tidy your garden for winter...

Gardens are preparing to go to sleep, but next Spring will soon be here. So why not consider some changes now:



- ~ Install a water butt now, to store up the winter rain for the Spring.
 - ~ Reduce the hard standing in your garden. Instead, let rain soak into the soil, rather than go down a drain.
 - ~ Plant something tall to create shade in your garden next year – the soil will remain wetter.
 - ~ Put in more plants – the more you have, the more protection they give the ground. Try to use native species, as your local wildlife depends on them.
 - ~ Consider adding a pond – it will be a great boost to your local wildlife!
-

In season in October

As the nights draw in and the weather gets colder, it's good to tuck into warm food. Stews, bakes and soups can all be made from seasonal fruit and vegetables that can be harvested or bought at this time of year.



In season - apples, autumn-fruiting raspberries, beetroot, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, celery, chard, celeriac, chillies, Jerusalem artichokes, kale, Kohl rabi, leeks, marrow, pears, parsnips, potatoes (maincrop). Onions, shallots, pak choi, quince, rocket, spinach, swede, turnip and winter squash and pumpkins.

A Plea for Help

First Hanwell Rainbows are in need of volunteers. The girls, age 4 to 7, meet in the Church Hall and come on Tuesdays, 6.15 to 7.10, during term time. If you can spare an hour on Tuesdays why not come along and see what's involved.

Marion Newlands(administrator)
email: firsthanwellrainbows@hotmail.com



From the Ealing Foodbank

Thank you for continuing to support the foodbank. There are several local shops and supermarkets that have collection points and they're all listed on the Foodbank website: <https://ealing.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>

There are other ways in which you can help.

If unable to drop-off at a local collection point, you can leave food donations in the green box in our church porch. However, there may be some delay in transfer to the Foodbank warehouse.

Monetary donations may be made through the Foodbank website, as above.

** please remember that our magazine is produced a month in advance - we publish the shopping list available to us at the time of going to press, so it's a good idea to check the most recent list on the website (see above) or Twitter: @EalingFoodbank or Instagram: ealingfoodbank

THE SEPTEMBER SHOPPING LIST **

Tinned veggie main meals, tinned chickpeas & vegetables, tinned fruit, tinned chunky soups, peanut butter/jam/marmalade, instant coffee, savoury biscuits & snacks.

Thank you, but the foodbank has plenty of toilet rolls and pasta at the moment.

Please pray for:

Those who are housebound, sick or in need: John Ball, Ben Blavo, John Brake & family, Nigel & Davina Brooks, Bryn, Ivan Carter, Noel Chardon, Elaine Cole, Patrick Dennerly, Daphne Dorival, Leo & Estriana Douglas, Merfyn Edwards, Darren Hancock, Brian Hunt, Ian King, Jaxon Prentice, Nick Lunn, Alan McDougall, Arda & Joe Metcalf, Alison Montgomery, Stuart Minty, Owen, Nicholas Robinson, Sarah, Julia Schumman, Gill Shaw, Keith & Sara Spillett, Colin Spooner & John Tozer.

Those recently departed: Valerie Patricia Agrafojo, Marion Knight



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- *MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!**
- *STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!**

OCTOBER

3rd - Tea, coffee & cakes
10th - tea, coffee & cakes
17th - tea, coffee & cakes
24th - tea, coffee & cakes
31st - tea, coffee & cakes

The POP-IN is run by the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme.

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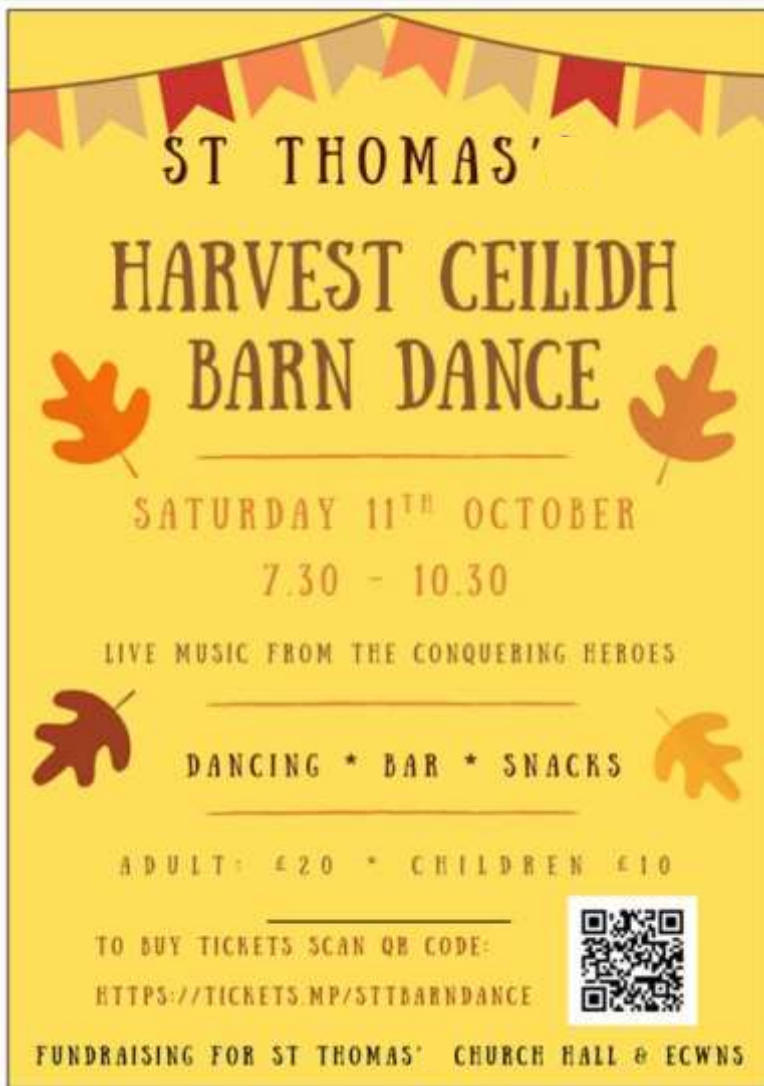
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FUNDRAISING FOR ST THOMAS' CHURCH HALL @ ECWNS



From the Editors

We hope to see you at the ceilidh (see advert above). There's a lot going on over the next few months, so keep an eye on the weekly pew sheet for updates.

Jul & Sue



(JC - there will be Junior Church)

September

Sun 28th **15th after Trinity.** St Michael & All Angels (JC)

October

Sun 5th **16th after Trinity.** Harvest Festival. Family Mass

Sat 11th Harvest Ceilidh Barn Dance

Sun 12th **17th after Trinity.** (JC)

Sun 19th **18th after Trinity.** St Luke the Evangelist. (JC)
Sponsored walk

Sat 25th Posh Pictures by the park

Sun 26th **19th after Trinity.** Bible Sunday. (JC)

November

Sun 2nd **20th after Trinity**

Sun 9th **21st after Trinity. Remembrance Sunday**

Sat 15th Quiz Night at St Thomas'

Sun 16th **2nd Sunday before Advent**

Sun 23rd **Sunday before Advent.** Christ the King (JC)

Sat 29th Christmas Fair

Sun 30th **First in Advent**

December

Sun 7th **Second in Advent. Christingle Service**

Sun 14th **Third in Advent. Carol service at 6:30pm**



If you would like to donate to St Thomas',
you can use this QR code to donate on your
smart phone. We're always grateful, so
thank you!



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