



Our Harvest Service is on Sunday 5th October at 10.45am. Donations will be taken to Storehouse Foodbank. There will also be a Harvest Evensong service that evening at 6.30pm.

Welcome to the October edition of our monthly newsletter

If you are new to our church please do introduce yourself to our welcoming team and pick up a Connect Card from our welcome desk.

CONTACTS

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Please
Recycle
Me



Rector's Reflection

Silence and Honey Cakes



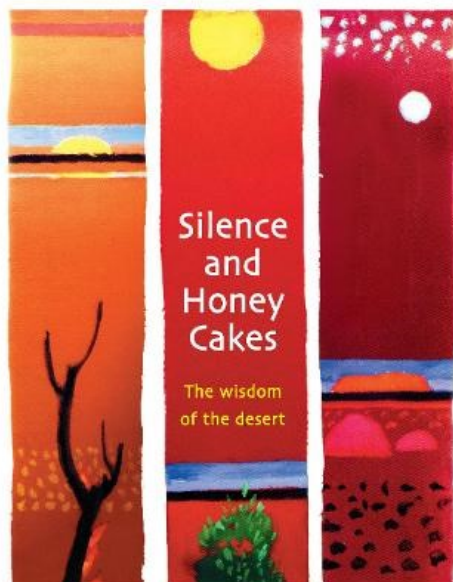
Last month's BCUK conference at St James' gave us much to think about, especially as we reflect on the shape of pastoral care in our church life. Alongside it, I've been rereading a short, thought-provoking book by Rowan Williams: *Silence and Honey Cakes*. It explores the wisdom of the Desert Fathers (4th and 5th century monks who made their homes in the Egyptian desert). Their experience may seem far removed from ours, yet I've found their insights surprisingly fresh and relevant.

One story tells of a traveller visiting the community at Scetes in Egypt. He was first taken to Abba Arsenius, once a Roman tutor and later a monk. When the traveller entered and greeted him, Arsenius remained silent, and the guest, unsettled, left. Next, he met Abba Moses, a former highwayman turned monk, who received him enthusiastically and with joy.

Puzzled, one of the other fathers prayed for understanding. God granted him a vision: on the river floated two great boats. In one, Abba Arsenius sat with the Holy Spirit in silence. In the other, Abba Moses shared honey-cakes with angels.

The vision revealed that silence and hospitality are not rivals but companions. Both can be holy. Whether we are drawn to quiet wisdom or to openhearted welcome, each is a gift. As the Apostle Paul reminds us:

Rowan Williams



There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work (1 Corinthians 12:4-6).

What would silence or honey-cakes look like in our church today?

How might you help offer one or the other to someone who needs it?

Rev Jake

Services in October

** indicates livestreamed service*

Friday 3rd October 10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 5th October

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.45am Sunday Worship* Harvest Service

Readings: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 John 6:25-35

6.30pm: Harvest Choral Evensong



Sunday 12th October

10.45am Sunday Worship* (HC)

Readings: Matthews 22:1-14 Revelation 18

4.30pm: Family Fellowship

Friday 17th October 10.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 19th October

10.45am Sunday Worship*

Readings: John 5:19-29 Revelation 19:11-20:15

4.30pm: Adult Sunday School

Sunday 26th October

10.45am Sunday Worship (HC)*

Readings: John 14:1-7 Revelation 21-22

We pray for: Bob Hughes, Margaret Gilbert, Audrey Griffiths, Anne-Marie Glenn, Vic Fielding, Jeannette Worth, the Hamilton-Browns, Jan Shrapnell, Mary Brooks, Joanna Danak, Andrew and Richard Clarke. *Please let Clair know of names to be added or removed.*



St James' October Diary



For all the latest updates go to www.stjamestrowbridge.co.uk/whats-on

Wed 1st	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Meeting in Church Hall
Fri 3rd	7.00pm	Youth Fellowship
Sat 4th	9.30am	Band Practice in Church
Mon 6th	2.15pm	Monday Fellowship Group at Farleigh Avenue
	7.00pm	Monday Home Group in Church
Tues 7th	10.30am	Fellowship and Crafts (Pat Doel's house)
Wed 8th	2.30pm	Wednesday Homegroup in Church
Thurs 9th	6.30pm	Soup Run Duty
Fri 10th	7.30pm	Devizes Branch Bell Practice
Sat 11th	9.30am	Who Let the Dads Out in the Church Hall
Sun 12th	12.30pm	Newcomers Lunch at the Rectory
Wed 15th	10.15am	Mothers' Union Prayers in Church
Thurs 16th	2.30pm	Goodson Lodge Service
	6.30pm	Soup Run Duty
Fri 17th	7.00pm	Youth Fellowship
Sat 18th	7.00pm	SDGR Devizes Branch Practice
Mon 20th	2.15pm	Monday Fellowship Group at Farleigh Avenue
	7.00pm	Monday Home Group in Church
Tues 21st	10.30am	Fellowship and Crafts (Pat Doel's house)
	6.00pm	Prayer Meeting in Church
Wed 22nd	2.30pm	Wednesday Home Group in Church
Sat 25th	10.30am	Quarter Peal Attempt for Town Hall Reopening
	5.00pm	Trowbridge Town Singers Autumn Concert in Church
Thurs 30th	2.30pm	Goodson Lodge Service
Fri 31st	5.00pm	Bright Light Party in Church



**Coffee Corner is open throughout the month:
Mon, Wed & Sat 10.00am to 12.00 noon**

We currently have various gaps on the rota, so do please have a look at this which is in the coffee corner and add your name if you can help. Keeping the coffee corner open is an integral part of St James' ministry and outreach to our wider community. *Thank you - Richard & John*

Wednesday 1st October we will meet in the Church Hall at 2.30 p.m. for a Harvest themed Text

Auction; For those of you unsure about text auctions; search your bible and find an appropriate text for the goodies you are bringing to auction; we often have a surfeit of loaves and fishes!

REMINDER

The clocks go back by one hour at 2:00am on **Sunday 26th October**. How will you spend your extra hour?



Christian Aid Quiz night at Wesley Road Church

Friday 17th October at 7.30pm. £5 a head to include tea/coffee and cake. Bring a team of 4 or join a team on the night.

The sponsored walk for Christian Aid Frances Landeryou was taking part in was postponed. Frances intends to join it when it is rescheduled.

Newcomers Lunch

Our next newcomers lunch will be **Sunday 12th October** at the Rectory.

The lunch is open to those who are new(ish!) and haven't attended a newcomers lunch before. It's an ideal opportunity to get to know you better and join in fellowship over some good food.

RSVPs should be made to nicola@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk

MONDAY OFFICE

A Short service of Morning Prayer on Mondays from 9 to 9.30am in church.



BIBLE SOCIETY QUIZ: 20th OCT

Unfortunately this event has been postponed until next year. More details to follow once arrangements have been made. Thank you *Barbara King, Emie and Len Haysom*

BELL NEWS:

The Devizes Branch will be ringing on Sunday 5th October at 12 noon and Friday the 10th at 7.30 pm in preparation for the South West 12 Bell Striking Competition at Newport Cathedral on the 11th.



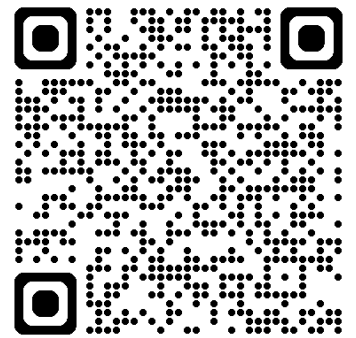
As the carnival is taking place on October 20th the regular Devizes Branch practice has been cancelled.

To mark the opening of the Old Town Hall we will be attempting a Quarter Peal at 10.30am on Saturday 25th October.

Bell Ringing practice takes place every Wednesday, 7pm until 9pm



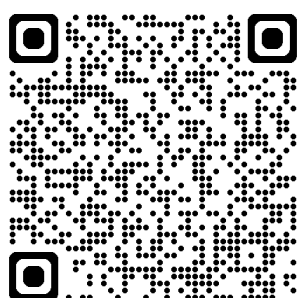
The bellringers now have their very own Facebook page filled with lots of facts about the bells and the history of the tower as well as dates and times of practices and scheduled ringing. You can follow them here [Friends of the Bells](#)



ARISE AFRICA



Unite in prayer with the church in Africa. Wednesday 22 October. 7.30-8.30 pm. Find out more click the [link here](#) or scan the QR Code



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone at St James for their prayers, kind messages and offers of help during Vic's recent stay in hospital. He is now being looked after at the Wingfield Care Home and would welcome any visits anyone would like to make.

Love and prayers, *Ann and Vic.*

A CHURCH FINANCE UPDATE



Thank you to everyone who has prayerfully reviewed their giving following our Stewardship Sunday earlier in the year (in May). We are delighted to share that our projected deficit for this year has already reduced from £38,866 to £22,970. We give thanks to God for his generous provision through his people, which includes the generosity of two Christian trusts who wish to contribute to our work with Children and Families.

There is still some way to go, and so I'd encourage you - if you haven't yet begun giving, or if it's been a while since you last reviewed your giving - to prayerfully consider doing so. Giving leaflets, with all the details you need, are available at the back of church. *Jake*

BCUK: Creating a Culture of Care

We are so full of thanks to God for a wonderful weekend with Biblical Counselling UK. We welcomed 64 church leaders on Friday to a seminar on "building a culture of care" and enjoyed a soup and bread lunch together. On Saturday 140 people from around the area joined us for a fantastic day of biblical counselling talks on "growing a culture of care" and 3 topical seminars. Cord of 3 from Yeovil led our sung worship and we were thrilled to have Dean from the Good Book Company with a great selection of books on sale. BCUK sold out of many of their resources they were so popular! Thank you so much to everyone who served this weekend. We pray that many will continue to enjoy the blessings and fruit of the weekend in their churches. *In Christ, Nicola*



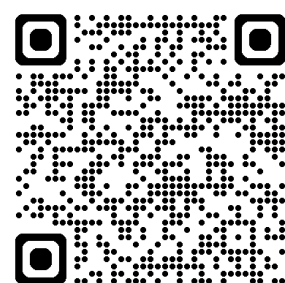
OUR CHARITY FOCUS FOR OCTOBER



Wiltshire
**YOUTH
FOR CHRIST**

An important part of the work Wiltshire Youth for Christ do is school mentoring. They liaise closely with local schools to identify students who may benefit from mentoring. WYfC mentor training offers an opportunity to dip your toes into the basics on what mentoring is, exploring what it can look like with young people,

learning key skills and giving it a go yourself! The next mentor training day on **Saturday 4th October 2025 at Emmanuel's Yard, Trowbridge from 9:15am-4:00pm** You can sign up using the link or QR Code below. Once you've completed the form you will be sent additional information about the day such as an outline of the content, directions to the venue, timings and how to come prepared. If you cannot make this one, don't worry, they aim to run them at least once a year - please get in touch with Dan (dan@wiltshireyfc.org.uk) to save a space on the next one! <https://wiltshire.yfc.co.uk/volunteer-training/>



Prayer Point

- For mentoring work in schools, Specifically for work in John of Gaunt School, Clarendon Academy, St Laurence School (Bradford on Avon), Devizes School, Lavington School, St John's School (Marlborough).
- For a successful mentoring training day.

Our Harvest Festival on 5th October will be supporting the work of the foodbank; gifts of: sugar, tea, coffee, long life milk, jams or spreads (e.g. chocolate spread, honey), packs of biscuits, tins or cartons of custard or fruit, tinned meals such as meatballs, curries, stews, chicken in white sauce, spaghetti bolognese, tinned pies, jars of cook in sauces, microwave rice etc are all useful gifts rather than perishable goods. Please continue to pray for the vital

work of the Storehouse from the foodbank to the Community Lunch, as well as their work in advising and supporting their clients in their different situations. *Ann Cook*

Storehouse
Foodbank



MEETING AT ST JAMES' CHURCH HALL, 7-9PM

ST JAMES' YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

AUTUMN/WINTER TERM DATES

SEPTEMBER

SATURDAY 13TH

FRIDAY 26TH

Wilderness Worship

OCTOBER

FRIDAY 3RD

FRIDAY 17TH

NOVEMBER

FRIDAY 14TH

FRIDAY 28TH

Bonfire sausage sizzle

DECEMBER

FRIDAY 12TH

Christmas Celebration



+ merry
Christmas
+

Year 7 or above

Contact us to find out more

yf@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk



St James' Youth



Fun ☺ Faith ✝ Fellowship!

Children & Families



Our next Grandparents afternoon tea is just around the corner, coming up on Saturday 8th November. The topic is 'Praying for our Grandchildren' and I'm delighted that we have guest speakers Martyn and Angela Thompson coming to lead this session. Together they run a thriving Grandparenting



ministry in the Northamptonshire area, and are about to have a book published on praying for Grandchildren. Whether you've thought about this topic before, or it's new to you, we'd love you to join us.

GRAND PARENTS

with guest speakers
Martyn & Angela Thompson
Topic: **Praying for your Grandchildren**

Contact Nick Lambert to book:
nick@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk
Or scan the QR code



Afternoon Tea

Saturday 8th November
2.30 - 4.30pm
St James' Church



ST JAMES' CHURCH
TROWBRIDGE

CALLING ALL PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN

Seekers

EVERY 2ND, 3RD, 4TH AND 5TH SUNDAY
TERM TIME - ONLY
FIND OUT MORE FROM NICK



St James'
Tots

Wednesdays 10-11.30
in St James' Church Hall



Friday 31st October

5-7pm

contact nick@stjamestrowbridge.co.uk for more details
or scan the QR code to book your place

Bright Lights PARTY



On Friday October 31st we want to celebrate Jesus, the Light of the World! So do join us as we do this at our Annual Bright Lights Party. A great opportunity to invite friends and grandchildren. If you want to serve, either by being there, or by baking some treats, please let me know. *Nick*

WHO LET THE DADS OUT?

Saturday 11th October

9.30 - 11am

St James' Parish Church Hall

Toys for the Kids | Tea, Coffee + Great Food
Meet other Dads

Second Saturday of each month



St Leonard's Keevil



Sunday 5th October

9.15am Sunday Worship

Readings: Psalm 37:1-9 Luke 17:5-10

Sunday 12th October

9.15am Sunday Worship (HC)

Readings: Matthew 22:1-14 Revelation 18:1-8, 21-24

Sunday 19th October

9.15am Sunday Worship (MP)

Readings: John 5:19-29 Revelation 19:11-16

Sunday 26th October

6.30pm Thanksgiving and Remembrance Service

Readings: Luke 6:20-31 Revelation 22:1-5

Coming up this month at St Leonard's

Thanksgiving and Remembrance Service:

On Sunday 26th October we have our Thanksgiving and Remembrance service at 6.30pm. If you would like the name/s of a loved one read out please advise Debbie or Gill.



RAISE (funds for) THE ROOF! Friday 14th November:

A concert of songs with guitar and lyrical reflections with Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of Ramsbury. St Leonard's Church at 7pm. Doors open 6.30pm. Wine and soft drinks bar. Raffle. Admission £10 in advance (£12.30 on door). Tickets from Rachel and Tony Howe 01380 870661 or racheltony19@gmail.com