



St. John's Newsletter

Charity No 1162162

www.stjohnschurchbroadstone.org.uk

October 2025



Letter from the Vicar

Dear friends,

The various events we run at St John's – socials, meals, cream teas, pub quizzes, and our bigger fayres – are such a joy and one of the real strengths of this



church. Yes, they raise much-needed funds to support our ministry, but even more importantly, they build us into a true community. We are not simply worshippers who gather on Sundays and go our separate ways; we are friends who share time, laughter, and food together.



These occasions also help us reach out beyond our congregation. Many people first encounter St John's through our events, and they often discover here a warm, welcoming community they want to be part of. In that sense, our social life is not just enjoyable – it is a vital part of our mission. Long may we continue to offer easy, friendly ways for people to get to know us.

But to keep this going, we do need help. You may know there is an Events Committee, but please don't imagine this means there are plenty of people to do everything. In fact, numbers have shrunk, and many of those who remain also carry heavy responsibilities elsewhere in church life. The Committee's role is to plan and co-ordinate our events, but it is simply not possible for the same small group to also do all the baking, advertising, setting-up, washing-up, and clearing away.



That's where you come in. We usually have sign-up sheets for each event, and while these help a little, we have recently found we have needed to approach people for help because not enough have signed the sheets. Even an hour here or there offering some kind of help makes a huge difference. So my **first plea** is this: if you've been hesitant to volunteer – perhaps thinking you're not needed or you can't do much – please know that every contribution matters. An hour washing up or putting out chairs can mean the difference between a tired Committee and a flourishing community.



time, which is fine.

For those who don't wish to join the Committee but are willing to be asked occasionally for help, we are creating a new sign-up list. By putting your name down you are not committing to anything other than being open to being asked – and of course you can always say no if it's not possible.

If you've sometimes felt on the edge of church life and wondered how to get more involved, this could be a simple way forward. Please don't underestimate what you can offer. Even a small task, done alongside others,



time and energy to our social life. For their sake, let's try to share the load. I believe these events are not just enjoyable extras, but essential to the health and future of St John's – for building one another



And if you're newer to St John's, don't wait before getting involved. You don't have to 'serve time' before you can join in – we'd love to have you pitch in straight away.

My **second plea** is that some of you might consider joining the Events Committee itself. This doesn't mean taking on everything – far from it! – but simply helping with planning, sharing ideas, and perhaps taking responsibility for a small part of an event now and again. The Committee meets just a few times a year, usually for an hour, on a Tuesday or a Wednesday evening, and not everyone can attend every



helps build our life together – and you may well find that you enjoy it and make new friends along the way.

The general sign-up sheet will be available in church throughout October and November. And if, for whatever reason, you are not in a position to help in this way, please don't feel guilty. We understand that you may wish to but may not be able to at this juncture and season. Your presence and your prayers are still a gift to us all.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to those who already give so much of their

time and energy to our social life. For their sake, let's try to share the load. I believe these events are not just enjoyable extras, but essential to the health and future of St John's – for building one another up in love and friendship and for reaching out to the wider community with love and joy. I'm

thrilled that St John's has developed a reputation for being such a lively, social and welcoming church.

With love and immense gratitude for all that you are and all that you bring,

Helen



Come & See! Family Work at St John's!

Our September **Café Breakfast Church** took place on Saturday 20th September, with the theme of celebrating all humanity as part of God's glorious creation.



Church



Our next one is our wonderful Christmas wreath-making workshop, on Saturday 15th November, at the slightly later and longer time of 10.30am - 12 noon. Do join us - and you get breakfast too! You will need to book in for this as it is so popular, and sign-up sheets will appear later this autumn.



Our September Muddy, led by Revd Helen, saw the very popular bulb planting with hot chocolate session. Muddy Church got muddy hands as we dug into the north side of our churchyard planting all sorts of lovely bulbs which we look forward to seeing in the spring!



Poole-Wau Partnership (PWP)



It was great to welcome Mark Rathbone last month to St John's, who told us in both our services about the Poole-Wau Partnership. For those who were not here, this is part of Salisbury Diocese's link with Sudan and South Sudan. South Sudan comes out as the poorest nation in the world, bar Somalia, in terms of economy, health, age expectancy and so forth. Each deanery in Salisbury Diocese is encouraged to partner with an area in that region, and the Poole-Wau Partnership is the Poole and North Bournemouth Deanery's commitment to support (which is our deanery).

It is time for St John's to also engage with this project, and I know Mark was greatly touched by your interest and financial giving when he came. We will definitely invite him back next year to tell us more about what is going on in the partnership! Thank you for supporting the work they do so marvellously. In the meantime, if you are interested, you can subscribe to a bi-monthly newsletter by going to the website below. This will give you the latest news, the dates of prayer meetings about it, and prayer requests they have. <https://www.poolewaupartnership.com/newsletter.html>

In a new departure for the PWP, the teaching course, which the team delivered when they visited Wau in February, went down so well that they are offering a scaled down version of it locally. A shortened version of it, just one day, will take place at St Michael's Church in Hamworthy on Saturday 18th October, 10am for a 10.30am start, and ending around 3pm. A light lunch will be provided. The day will include a presentation about the recent visit, but also will cover three themes: St Luke and his Gospel, the Role of Women in the Church, and Salvation. You will be able to find contact details for booking onto this from the above website. The event is free, but donations are welcome. We look forward to being part of the ongoing relationship and support for PWP !

Fairtrade, St John's and me!



My story: It was a long time ago – about 1975! A friend told me about the new initiative that had been started by a group of Christians. It was called 'Fairtrade'. Up to that point I had never considered the people who grew the bananas that my little boy liked so much, the cocoa and sugar for our much-enjoyed chocolate, coffee my go-to drink (still is!). But she opened my eyes. Growers were living on a pittance (many still do). They couldn't afford basic essentials let alone health care or education for their children, all of which I, though not well off, happily took for granted.

So, after much thought and prayer, I bought into Fairtrade and signed up as a Fairtrader with Traidcraft, a Fairtrade company in my local church. Fairtraders are volunteers who sell on Fairtrade products and promote fairtrade. For a number of years I was also a Fairtrade speaker and gave a number of presentations to various groups. I particularly enjoyed talking at schools, where the audience could be quite challenging but never not interested.

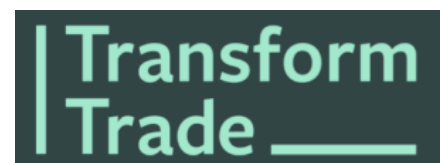
Fairtrade guarantees a fair and sustained price for the produce, and gives growers the chance of a decent standard of living. Fairtrade developed over the years, and introduced a 'Fairtrade Premium', available to local communities to spend according to their needs. This still applies today and makes a tremendous difference to the lives of whole communities.



I was pleased when Fairtrade was introduced at St John's, and that it was well supported. When Jenny, who had run a regular Fairtrade stall for some time decided to stand down (due to her undertaking other roles in church) I was very happy to take over as St John's Fairtrade rep. In 2023 the PCC took the decision for St John's to become a Fairtrade Church, committing the church to carry on supporting Fairtrade – the certificate is on the table by the church door.

Unfortunately Traidcraft, my Fairtrade 'home', went into administration in 2022. However I decided to try and continue and now have to cast my net wider to find the goods. Luckily I have managed to do so, and try to keep a well-stocked and varied stall. Chocolate, biscuits and cards are particularly popular, but I try to ring the changes.

I can't believe I am thinking about Christmas already - but I have brochures and order forms for Christmas cards and wrapping paper from Transform Trade – profits from these enable the Fairtrade Premiums to continue. Order early to be sure your chosen cards are still in stock (no postage required as long as I get enough orders!). As with other goods I ask for payment on receipt of your goods. I also have a small stock of Christmas cards at reduced prices. And hopefully I can get hold of Fairtrade Advent Calendars (these would need to be ordered).



I am grateful to all the members of St John's congregation who visit the stall regularly (usually held on the second Sunday of each month), and invite everyone to take a peep.

Lastly a plea – PLEASE keep supporting Fairtrade (at church and in the shops) wherever possible – it makes an enormous difference to those who grow and produce the goods we enjoy – not forgetting 'Fair Ground', the Fairtrade shop in the Cornmarket, Wimborne which stocks a wide range of Fairtrade products.

Val Renyard

Exploring “your SHAPE for God’s Service”

Do you wish

- You could discover your gifts?
- You could live a more joyful and fruitful Christian life?
- You could serve God more fully?
- You could become the person God has designed you to be?

St John's Church will be running a short course where you can explore what it means to be a disciple, discover your particular gifts (your SHAPE), and then learn how to use them in His service.

What is your SHAPE?

Our lives, experiences, gifts, and talents are all of use to God as He seeks to build His Kingdom, meaning we all have something to offer, even when we don't know it. What is your SHAPE?

Spiritual Gifts: God’s unique gifts to us as members of Christ’s Body.

Heart’s desire: what motivates and excites us; what we most long to do.

Abilities: our strengths, knowledge and skills.

Personality: our character, style, preferences, and personal qualities.

Experiences: our life experiences and what we have learned from them.

When and how?

Through just three 2-hour informal meetings, we will explore what it means to be a disciple, identify our own gifts and talents, discover what inspires us, and ultimately, learn how to use them in God's service.

Following these sessions, you will also receive a (totally optional and confidential) invitation to meet and discuss any topics that the course has raised that you would like to explore.

We are hoping to run the course in early 2026, with dates to be confirmed soon.

If you'd like to discuss this before committing, I would be pleased to meet with you or simply look out for the sign-up sheets. I look forward to exploring together as we SHAPE our lives for God.

Revd Gary



**Diocese
of Salisbury**

From the St John’s Eco Gang ... **IDEAS FOR ACTIONS**



- Joining in with a litter pick is a great way to make a difference to our local environment and link up with our community. The Broadstone Litter pick takes place of every month and you just turn up when you can. Litter pickers, bags and hi-vis vests are provided. Meet at 9.30 on the last Saturday of the month at the Station Approach car park.
- Wimborne Green Festival 11th – 18th October has a fantastic range of opportunities, talks and activities for everybody. You can see a summary of the programme or download the whole thing at <https://planetwimborne.org/tags/wimborne-green-festival>
- Attached is a poster from Dorset Wildlife Trust with ideas to save water, not only for our homes and gardens but for the whole environment.

No Occasional Offices from September

Service Readings in October

Date	Sunday	OT	Psalm	NT	Gospel
Sun 5 th October	Harvest Festival	Deuteronomy 26.1-11	Psalm 100	Philippians 4.4-9	John 6.25-35
Sun 12 th October	17 th Sunday after Trinity	2 Kings 5. 1-3, 7-15c	Psalm 111	2 Timothy 2.8-15	Luke 17.11-19
Sun 19 th October	18 th Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 32.22-31	Psalm 121	2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5	Luke 18.1-8
Sun 26 th October	Last Sunday after Trinity	Jeremiah 14. 7-10, 19-end	Psalm 84.1-7	2 Timothy 4.6-8, 16-18	Luke 18.9-14

Diary Round-up: Events at St John's in October

Wed 1 st Oct	10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 2 nd Oct	8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning
Fri 3 rd Oct	10am Children's work meeting at the Vicarage.
Sat 4 th Oct	7pm Harvest Supper
Sun 5 th Oct	8am Holy Communion (BCP) Harvest Sunday 10am Parish Eucharist Harvest Sunday
Tues 7 th Oct	7.30pm Events Committee Meeting in Parish Hall
Wed 8 th Oct	10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 9 th Oct	8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning 7.30pm St John's Fellowship in Parish Hall
Fri 10 th Oct	10am Worship & Spirituality Committee Meeting
Sun 12 th Oct	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Eucharist Fair Trade Stall after 10am Service
Mon 13 th Oct	Parish Office Open from 11.30am
Wed 15 th Oct	10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 16 th Oct	8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning 10.45am Service at The Links Care Home 7.30am Broadstone Community Band Charity Concert
Fri 17 th Oct	11am Service at The Potteries Care Home
Sun 19 th Oct	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Eucharist 3pm Muddy Church
Wed 22 nd Oct	10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 23 rd Oct	8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning
Sun 26 th Oct	8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Eucharist
Mon 27 th Oct	Parish Office Closed
Tues 28 th Oct	Parish Office Closed
Wed 29 th Oct	Parish Office Closed 10.30am Eucharist
Thurs 30 th Oct	8.45am Morning Prayer in Church 10am – 12 noon Holy Grounds Coffee Morning

St John's News from the Pews

A more detailed look at what is happening in and around the church...

HARVEST SUPPER This Saturday 4th October at 7pm: bring your own drinks and glasses.

HARVEST SUNDAY Our Harvest Sunday services take place on Sunday 5th October. Please bring your food contributions for the Harvest display to both services that day. Tinned goods, packet food well within date are best. We will arrange to have them taken to Routes 2 Roots.



MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DAME ANNETTE BROOKE All the information, including location and times for this at <https://www.tapperfuneralservice.co.uk/tapper/funeral-search/750ea54ac47edb1d9f6ca988e7467261cad8c80e#cookieagree> You are welcome to attend. Also live-streamed. Let Mike know you are attending by email mikebrooke1947@gmail.com

NEW FELLOWSHIP Renowned Dorset wildlife photographer Mike Read will be the presenter at the Fellowship meeting on Thursday 9th October. His presentation "A Look at Dorset Naturally" features a light and informal commentary accompanied by some of the many excellent photos he has taken. He says that "Dorset is a fabulous county for any naturalist", and the subjects covered by his presentation will include native and migrant birds, butterflies, and wild flowers. The presentation begins at 7.30 in the Church Hall. Fellowship members will not want to miss this presentation, but non-members are also welcome on payment of a very modest entry fee.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COFFEE MORNING on Saturday 11th October 10.30am – 12.30pm at St John's Northreach Annexe. Come along for a free coffee/tea and chat with members of the Broadstone Watch.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME If you give via the parish giving scheme you may have received a message saying between 13th to 30th Oct you won't be able to change your amount of giving as they are changing their payments systems. There is nothing you need to do: your giving will be taken out as normal. If you do plan on making a change to the amount you give, avoid those dates!

FREE NHS HEALTH CHECKS Monday 13th October at St John's Northreach Annexe. To book, please visit <https://www.livewelldorset.co.uk/healthcare-professionals/nhs-health-checks/>

HELP NEEDED Can you help paint a second coat of bottles ready to cover the chain link outside the Methodist church ready for the Poppy appeal and Remembrance Day? If so, please assembly on 15th Oct at the Methodist Church from 12.30 – 3pm or Sat 18th at the Methodist church. Please contact Ann Biggs for more information on 01202849136.



COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT Thurs 16 Oct 7.30pm, Broadstone Community Band charity concert in Church followed by Tea/Coffee & Cake in NorthReach. Free entry, but there will be a retiring collection to raise much needed funds for our church. Do come along.

NEW INVITATION TO NOMINATE CHARITIES Each year St Johns makes donations to carefully selected worthwhile charities. This longstanding tradition helps us to make a positive difference both within our local community and beyond. At one time the Parochial Church Council (PCC) decided which charities should be supported but in recent years year the whole membership of the church has been involved in the choices. With that in mind, we now invite members to nominate the charities that we might support this year. The charities nominated should be from one of three categories: local; national or international; environmental. Members are welcome to nominate charities from one, two or all



three categories. Nominations should be in writing and sent to the Parish Office no later than Friday 17th October either by email or on paper. Shortly after 17th October ballot papers will be prepared so that members can vote on which charities should be supported from each category.



REMEDY OAK SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23RD There are menus in church and in the office and the list to sign up is in Church on a Sunday but otherwise in the office. Please give your menus and money to the Parish Office before the 14th November.

CRAFT AND CHAT is taking a break and will **not run** from September through to December. We'll let you know what is happening in the New Year, but in the meantime, feel able to bring any crafts of your own to Holy Grounds on Thursday mornings.

RECALLING ANY COMMON WORSHIP DAILY PRAYER BOOKS NOT BEING USED You will recall that some of you borrowed these books from church to join in with online prayers. If you no longer come to these and have a copy at home, could you arrange for it to be returned to church? They can be taken to the parish office. Many thanks!

NEW CARE HOME SINGING Revd Helen and Gary give a short service in two local Care Homes several times a year. Our next two services are **Thursday 16th October 10.45am The Links** and **Friday 17th October 11 am The Potteries**. If anyone would like to join our singing group in these services, they would be very welcome. Please phone Pat Longstaff 01202 691148.

JIGSAWS Please feel free to borrow the jigsaws that are stored in the north aisle, enjoy them and return them (please note any missing pieces).



PHISHING EMAILS Please be vigilant to any emails you receive and do not give out any details, especially bank details, to anyone. Phishing emails will often appear to be from legitimate email addresses, but often when you reply the email address changes. You can forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk or for more info go to <https://www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-emails-websites-phishing>

SERVERS REQUIRED. We are looking for new servers to recruit (those who carry candles and the cross during services, among other things). Please let the vicar or Keith Manston know asap if you would like to know more about this role. **ALSO VERGERS NEEDED** to be a verger at funerals and weddings at St John's. If interested, have a word with Revd Helen.

PARKING AT THE PARISH HALL A reminder that if there is room, you are allowed to park but **ONLY** on church business - no other reason. You must only park in a way that uses a genuine space and **MUST NOT** block anyone in nor prevent emergency access to the hall by a vehicle from the gate. Please ensure all cars are removed by 12 noon on Wednesdays if you have parked by the fence nearest to church / outside parish hall itself. Thank you. *Revd Helen*

STRICTLY NO ACCESS TO PARISH HALL ITSELF MON TO FRI 7.30am - 6.25pm A reminder there is strictly no access to the building for any reason whatsoever Mon to Fri 7.30am to 6.25pm. Many thanks - I appreciate your co-operation with this. *Revd Helen*

RAISE MONEY FOR ST JOHNS WITH TRUST130 For every new home insurance policy taken out with Ecclesiastical, they'll donate £130 to an Anglican church of the policy holder's choice. For info, contact Caroline in the office or call Ecclesiastical on **0800 7830 130**.

CORFE MULLEN FOOD BANKS Food donations can be left in the Church Porch Mon - Fri 10am-1pm & Sun 11.30am – 12.15pm. All given to St Nicholas' Church Corfe Mullen FoodBank who provide food for Broadstone individuals & families, and vouchers to Broadstone/ Hillbourne Schools. They are grateful for what we bring but currently are short of: **tinned rice, custard, tinned fruit and tinned potatoes**. Visit parishofcorfemullen.church/foodbank to make cash donation or contact Sheila & Ken.





HOLY GROUNDS COFFEE MORNING Free tea & coffee every Thursday morning, 10am – 12noon. Come and enjoy a drink and a chat with old friends and new.

Further Afield

WOMEN'S DAY AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH Saturday 4th Oct from 9.30am-3pm. £15 a ticket. For more information go to <https://parishofcorfemullen.church/connect>

BOURNEMOUTH WILLIAM TEMPLE ASSOCIATION Mon 6th Oct at the Marsham Court Hotel, Bournemouth. The meeting starts at 7.40pm but there is an optional dinner at 6.30pm.

GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYONE is the new name of Gideons UK, which gives out free bibles to all school children, hotel rooms etc. They are holding a lunchtime meeting on Mon 27th Oct 12.30pm-2.20pm to which all are welcome. Venue: The Beacon Cafe, St Mary's Church, Ferndown. Over a light lunch you will hear about the work of the organisation. Please let them know you plan on attending, for catering purposes at john.milman@talk21.com or telephone 07960 195 202.

DONATIONS FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS BIKES WANTED International Care Network (ICN) are looking for bikes for refugees and asylum seekers in BCP. For further info contact Judith on 07840490525 or judithw0651@gmail.com

CHITTER CHATTER CLUB Every Wednesday, 2.30pm – 4pm at Cafe Gardenia.

TUESDAY CLUB AT BROADSTONE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH We are open 10.30 am till 2pm. Please contact Ann on 01202 849136 for more information.

And Finally... Flowers in Church



We all like seeing flowers in Church each week but there are less people on the 'flower team' now so we really need to have more people to provide and arrange a vase of flowers for the front table under the Banner, and a small vase on the sanitizer table: even once or twice a year would be helpful. Some flowers like Carnations, Alstroemeria, Chrysanthemums, last 2-3 weeks and are happy with a refresh of water on the 2nd/3rd week. Perhaps you could join the team for Festival Services, Easter, Harvest and Christmas when all the windowsills and tables are decorated as well as the usual places. If you don't feel up to arranging but could supply some money to buy them occasionally, even once a year, that would be marvellous: we can ensure someone arranges them for you. You may like to donate them to celebrate a Birthday, Anniversary, or in memory of someone, when we supply a card to go alongside them with the loved one's name on. Or it may be just because you like to see fresh flowers at the front of Church each week. I look forward to hearing from you. *Marion Marsh*

DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER EDITION SUBMISSIONS FRI 24th Oct.

Please email all items to admin@stjohnschurchbroadstone.org.uk,
AND a copy to Revd Helen at revdhelenbailey@gmail.com