



October 2026

50p

Parish Post

The monthly magazine
for St Mildred's

Find out what's going on in *your* Parish!

**We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land...**



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and confidence, and joyfully sharing God's love with all**

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Come and Worship at St Mildred's

website: *www.stmildredschurch.org.uk*

The church is open for worship

SERVICES

(See diary on pages 16 and 17 for further details)

Eucharist:

Sundays at 8am and 10am

Mondays at 7.30pm in the Lady Chapel

Wednesdays at 10am in the Lady Chapel

Monthly Choral Evensong

2nd Sunday of the month at 3.30pm

Monthly Healing Service

4th Sunday of the month at 6pm

**Online streamed services can be accessed
via this link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChItFWkqY5m8jtcGlQ00SZg>

Enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals,
Home Communion, Visits and the Burial of Ashes
in our Rose Garden, please contact the Parish Office

October 2026

Thought for the Month

This month our Reader, Rona, shares her thoughts...

**‘Rejoice always, pray without ceasing’
1 Thessalonians 5.16**



The requests for emergency funds are still landing on my doorstep and in my in-box, although the Nepal-China floods happened back on 26 August. The flash floods and landslides were a disaster of epic proportions, affecting towns, villages and businesses along a 45-mile stretch of river, killing at least 1,429 people, injuring nearly 7,000 and leaving over 5,600 people missing. The clean-up operation is still ongoing.

The area affected by the disaster is an area of pilgrimage, including the holy site of Mount Kailash and, among the missing, are 587 foreign nationals from 39 different countries (including 15 people from the UK).

I volunteer for a small charity, called Child Rescue Nepal (CRN), which works to end child slavery and supports many young people in Nepal through education and apprenticeships. The Chief

Inside this issue:		Executive quickly communicated with supporters that staff, children and young people being looked after by the charity were all safe and accounted for. Not surprisingly, donations flooded in and staff at CRN in Nepal were quickly able to deliver supplies to families who had lost everything – including food, medical supplies and warm clothing. But, in the midst of this disaster, we witnessed miracles. Our TV news brought us stories, like the head teacher who heard the flood warning and led all 900 of
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his pupils to safety on higher ground before the flash floods swept away the entire school building; the 45-day-old baby rescued alive from the mud; and two men pulled alive from the mud after nine days trapped underground in a hydropower plant tunnel. I cannot begin to imagine what it must be like to be trapped underground for one day, never mind nine days. To be in the dark, with flood water, no light and no food, I imagine you would pray – pray like never before to be rescued. We may never know what those two men were thinking in those nine days, but a miracle happened and the rescuers pulled them out alive.

Nepal is a country of prayer - well known for its colourful prayer flags in five colours, rectangles of coloured cloth which are strung along mountain paths and rooftops to spread peace, compassion and positive energy through the wind. As the wind blows against the cloth, the Nepalese believe it carries the prayers and blessings across the land to all living beings and, as the fabric slowly fades and frays in the wind, it symbolises the continuous cycle of life and impermanence.

The clean-up operation in Nepal will take a very long time and, as well as donations, the people of Nepal and Tibet need our prayers. Please take some time to pray for the rescue workers, the orphaned, the injured, the homeless, the charities, the bereaved and the families who may never have a body to bury.

In response to the disastrous flood, the Archbishop of Canterbury shared these words, *'Into the hands of our loving God, and in the name of Jesus Christ, I place all those who watch, wait and weep. Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.'*

The Nepal-China floods may have disappeared from our TV screens, but the work of recovery, re-building and healing will go on and on. Please remember them all in your prayers this month.

Rona Robins

Rona has now completed her Reader training and her Licensing Service will take place at Southwark Cathedral on Sunday 11 October. Congratulations Rona!

The Editors



Choir Notes

Choir Trip to Lichfield 30 July – 2 August

The Choir's cathedral trip this year was to Lichfield. We sang all the services from Thursday through to Sunday, accompanied throughout by our wonderful Organ Scholars, Ruby and Ben.

Lichfield cathedral is dedicated to St Mary and St Chad. Much of it was built in the gothic style in the 13th century and it retains many of the original mediaeval features, like the Chapter House. Lichfield is the only mediaeval cathedral in England with three spires - a symbol of the Trinity. One of the most intriguing chapels is St Chad's Head Chapel, reached by climbing a stone staircase in the wall of the nave. Until the Reformation, St Chad's bones were kept there as relics and his skull was exhibited

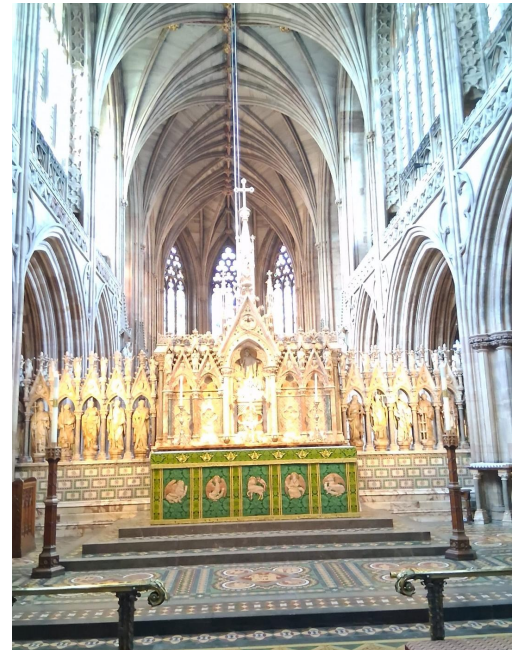


to pilgrims from the balcony. Nowadays, the chapel is a place of prayerful contemplation with a good view of the nave.

The cathedral staff were very friendly and made a special point of making children and families feel welcome. There was also a dedicated space for families to meet during services. As it was August, they had set up a sandpit outside with deckchairs just by the West

Door, so the children could play happily while being watched by their parents and, at the same time, listen to the lovely music of the service.

I found Lichfield a pleasant surprise and well worth a visit. The centre of the city retains many of its old buildings and layout. It must have been something of a cultural hub in the 18th and 19th centuries, when luminaries such as Samuel Johnson, Erasmus Darwin (grandfather of Charles), and David Garrick lived there. You can still visit Dr Johnson's and Erasmus Darwin's houses in the city.



Judy Bennett

Recital news

October's recital will be given by the brilliant David Swinson, former Head of Music at Trinity School, where he built one of the finest school music departments in Britain.

David has now returned to performing internationally as a solo organist, as well as directing choirs. Don't miss this first rate musician, at 4.30pm on Sunday 11 October.

Concert News

Save the date! Globally acclaimed organist and improviser, David Briggs, will be performing at St Mildred's on Saturday 15 May 2027 at 7.30pm.

His programme will include a symphonic improvisation, as well as improvising the soundtrack to a silent movie as we watch! More details to follow...

Richard Mander
Director of Music

A message from Bishop Rosemarie (abridged) following the retirement of Bishop Christopher

Bishop Christopher's valedictory Eucharist at Southwark Cathedral was very moving. He handed on the symbols of office, and we said our formal and fond farewells. The Deed of Delegation provides that I will, as acting Bishop of Southwark, exercise all the functions of the Diocesan Bishop until a new Bishop takes up office, God willing, towards the end of next year.

I want to say one or two things about the arrangements that will operate in this interim period. The Common Worship ordinal says, *'Bishops are called to serve and care for the flock of Christ. Mindful of the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life for his sheep, they are to love and pray for those committed to their charge, knowing their people and being known by them'*. At this moment, when I take on the acting diocesan responsibilities, I recommit myself to that calling, to serve and to care, to love and to pray, and to be among you. I do this with gladness.

I will continue to serve the Croydon Episcopal Area, with Bishop Martin and Bishop Alastair serving their Areas and the Bishop of Fulham and the Bishop of Ebbsfleet continuing to offer extended episcopal care to the parishes that have formally requested it. I give thanks for my brother Bishops, and we are all committed to the flourishing of all in our wonderful Diocese across the spectrum of theological conviction.

At the same time, the administrative life of the Diocese, the nuts and bolts of making things work, must continue. Alongside my ongoing Area responsibilities and work for the Church of England nationally, I will give particular attention in the coming season to our Diocesan financial review and to supporting the well-being of our clergy and parishes.

Please know that I am here to support you, and that you are able to reach out to me directly. I am deeply grateful to be held in prayer by the prayer committee of the Vacancy in See Committee, which continues to lead Diocesan prayers for the vacancy and for the Bishop whom God will bring in his good time to be the shepherd and pastor of this Diocese. Be assured that I pray for you every day, and I ask for your prayers, too.

The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallet
The Bishop of Croydon and Acting Bishop of Southwark

At the Altar: Growing in Christ

On Monday evenings at 7.30pm throughout the year, after a Said Eucharist, we will be exploring a wide range of topics to help us grow in faith: from Scripture, prayer and the sacraments to the Christian life, the Church, theology and spiritual practice. Some evenings will include guided meditations or opportunities for discussion. Whether you are new to the faith or have been a Christian for many years, all are warmly welcome.

For more details, visit our website: www.stmildredschurch.org.uk or email us: parishoffice@stmildredschurch.org.uk

Harvest Hymn

We come into God's house today
To sing our songs of praise.
We bring our gifts of food and flowers,
And grateful hearts we raise.

We wonder at God's generous love,
As these our gifts we bring.
With joy we come to praise God's love,
Our songs of thanks we sing.

We sing the harvest of the fields,
The harvest of the seas,
The harvest of the mines and wells,
God's goodness gives all these.

Our voices join in songs of praise,
Our hearts with gladness swell,
May people who receive these gifts
Accept our love as well.

Revd Barbara Pearson

DOMESTIC ABUSE FORUM

Working together for safer, stronger communities



**MONDAY 12 OCTOBER
FROM 7PM**



ST MILDRED'S CHURCH

A forum for our community to come together, hear from local experts and activists, and reflect on how we can respond to domestic abuse in Croydon.



HEAR FROM LOCAL EXPERTS AND ACTIVISTS

Presentations from key charities and stakeholders working with both men and women who are victims of domestic abuse.



PANEL DISCUSSION & CONVERSATION

Bringing together voices from across the community to deepen understanding, strengthen local partnerships, and encourage a co-ordinated response.



PANEL WITH LOCAL POLITICIANS

Hear what more can be done from their perspective. Reducing domestic violence is not a party-political issue – we all need to be working together for the common cause.

**EVERY PERSON
DESERVES TO
FEEL SAFE.
BE HEARD.
BE SUPPORTED.**



OPEN TO EVERYONE

All are welcome



FREE OF CHARGE



**ALL ARE WELCOME.
ALL ARE VALUED.
ALL ARE HEARD.**



This is not an event for evangelism but an expression of our Christian commitment to the dignity, safety, and flourishing of every person.



**PLEASE COME ALONG, FIND OUT MORE,
AND BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION.**

*Please feel free to
share this event with
anyone who might
like to join us!*



**Mothers'
UNION
RISE UP**

against domestic violence

mothersunion.org/campaign/rise-up/

At St Mildred's we care passionately about this issue and we very much hope that you will be able to come along to the Forum in October to find out more.



St Mildred's Church,
Bingham Road, Croydon, CR0 7EB



parishoffice@stmildredschurch.org.uk



Blue Sapphire Anniversary Congratulations!



Dennis and I recently celebrated our 65th 'Blue Sapphire' wedding anniversary and would like to thank everyone for the many cards we received, including one from the King and Queen! I had hoped that Dennis would be able to attend church on the Sunday before our anniversary but, unfortunately, on the day he felt unable to leave the house. I was pleased to do so and admired the beautiful flowers prepared by the flower team and listened to the

lovely anthem, *God be in my Head*, sung by the choir, who were supposed to be on holiday. Many thanks to Richard for organising this. Dennis and I watched the service later and we have listened to the anthem many times. I was sad that Dennis was not with me to receive a card and present from Father Neil, for which we are very grateful.

We were married at St Albans Church, Redland, in Bristol on 19 August 1961. To make sure it actually happened, we had three clergy officiating: my godfather, a vicar in Yiewsley, West London; Dennis's vicar from his parish of Backwell, North Somerset; and the priest from the church in which we were celebrating our wedding.

We were both working in London but, being a teacher, I was on holiday in the family home in Bristol. Dennis, then singing in Croydon Parish Church choir, had decided that he ought to sing with the choir at the Memorial Service for the Lanfranc disaster on the Thursday. He travelled to Bristol on the Friday and decided at Temple Meads station that he really needed a haircut and finished up with a very short back and sides. I should have realised then that music and choirs were always going to come first!

Our reception was in the church hall, as we had elderly relatives who were unable to walk very far. We travelled back to London on Saturday evening and the next morning we caught the train to Innsbruck, where we spent our honeymoon in Mutters.

Anne Jeanes



Millies' Mountaineers

It has been lovely to welcome the children back after the summer break. Throughout September we have been exploring the story of Moses.

We began with the story of the baby Moses, learning how his mother placed him carefully in a basket and hid him to keep him safe. We then heard the story of Moses and the burning bush, when God called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. We finished the month with the story of Moses parting the Red Sea.

Through these stories and craft activities we thought about listening to God, trusting Him and having courage, even when we don't know what will happen next.

Millies' Mountaineers welcomes children from birth to Year 6 to learn, play, craft and grow in faith together. We meet every Sunday in term time at 10am.

Charlotte Hatton

100 Club

The winners of the recent '100 Club' draws were:

August	1st prize of £50	Maddie Henson
	2nd prize of £30	Anthony Boutall
September	1st prize of £50	Fred Demay
	2nd prize of £30	Jane Blackwell

Jenny Nicholls



Mothers' Union (MU)

St Mildred's hosted a 150th Anniversary Picnic for Croydon MU Area on a very hot Saturday at the beginning of August. The plan was that it would be held in the Community Garden but, as it was so hot, we stayed in the Large Hall with all the doors open. The St Mildred's members were joined by our Diocesan President, Penny Lohead, and members from other branches in the area. 'Pass the parcel' was enjoyed by all!

On Sunday 9 August, a Mary Sumner Day Eucharist was held at the 10am service. There was a magnificent display in the church window celebrating 150 years of MU, and the beautiful flower arrangements in church were in the MU colours of blue and yellow.



Rona preached on that day, and members were involved in both the readings and intercessions. Although the choir was officially on holiday, Penny had organised MU members who were also in the choir to lead the service. During the service there was a recording of the Mary Sumner Prayer, which Revd Roger Hagon had set to music.

Our September meeting took the form of our annual Wave of Prayer. This runs throughout the year so that the work and members of each and every area in which

Mothers' Union is active is prayed for at some point. It takes place in Southwark annually from 31 August to 2 September and

is a continuous daily commitment for members to pray for one another and global linked areas. Our members specifically pray for Harare (Zimbabwe), Machakos (Kenya), Ogori-Magongo (Nigeria), Ekiti (Nigeria), and Phulbani (India). Penny led our prayers and invited members to read the specific prayers for our linked branches and the bible readings and psalm.

Diary Dates

Thursday 1 Oct 2pm Small Hall. Claudia Almeida will talk about ANCA. All welcome.

Thursday 5 Nov 2pm Small Hall. Penny Lohead will talk about The History of Christmas Cards.

Jackie Bartley
MU Secretary

COFFEE – CHAT – CATCH-UP

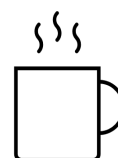


St Mildred's Centre

10.30am – 12.30pm

Thursday 22 October

Thursday 19 November



A relaxed event - just bring your own tea or coffee in a flask (or similar) and a cup. If we are lucky, someone may bring some biscuits or cake. Turn up, relax and enjoy! ***Everyone welcome.***

Linda Monk

October Diary

Thurs 1st 2:00pm Mothers' Union - Talk about ANCA - Small Hall

Sunday 4th SUNDAY 27

8:00am **Said Eucharist**

10:00am **Sung Eucharist**

Mon 5th 7:30pm **At the Altar: Growing in Christ - Lady Chapel**

Tues 6th 9:30am Toddlers - Large Hall

2:00pm Community Gardening - Small Hall

7:30pm The Lit - Pavilion

Wed 7th 10:00am **Said Eucharist**

Sunday 11th DEDICATION FESTIVAL

8:00am **Said Eucharist**

10:00am **Sung Eucharist**

3:30pm **Choral Evensong**

Mon 12th 7:00pm Mothers' Union Domestic Abuse Forum - Church

Tues 13th 9:30am Toddlers - Large Hall

2:00pm Community Gardening - Small Hall

Wed 14th 10:00am **Said Eucharist**

Thurs 15th 8:00pm Women's Group - Small Hall

Sunday 18th SUNDAY 29 WITH HARVEST FESTIVAL

8:00am **Said Eucharist**

10:00am **Sung Eucharist**

Mon 19th 7:30pm **At the Altar: Growing in Christ - Lady Chapel**

Tues 20th 9:30am Toddlers - Large Hall

2:00pm Community Gardening - Small Hall

7:30pm The Lit - Pavilion

Wed	21st	10:00am	Said Eucharist
Thurs	22nd	10:30am	Coffee and Chat - Cedar Room

Sunday 25th	SUNDAY 30
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		8:00am	Said Eucharist
		10:00am	Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm	Healing Service
Mon	26th	10:45am	Sing, Sow and Grow - Small Hall
		7:30pm	At the Altar: Growing in Christ - Lady Chapel
Tues	27th	2:00pm	Community Gardening - Small Hall
Wed	28th	10:00am	Said Eucharist - SS Simon & Jude

November Diary

Sunday 1st	ALL SAINTS
	8:00am Said Eucharist
	10:00am Sung Eucharist
Mon	2nd
	ALL SOULS
	8:00pm Requiem Mass

From the Parish Register

No notices this month



St. Mildred's Community Garden

A friendly place to garden,
chat & relax!

Some of us garden, some of us
just watch and chat – either way
we share a lovely afternoon
together.

 **Every Tuesday**
 **2pm – 4pm**
 **Small Hall**

✦ Everyone welcome – come and take a look!





Fairtrade Fortnight

21 September - 4 October

This year during Fairtrade Fortnight we're being asked to **Do it Fair - for People, for Planet and for Fair Pay.**

Fair to People - Behind the products we use every day are farmers and workers, who deserve safe conditions, equal opportunities, and dignity at work. No one should work in fear and Fairtrade is campaigning for governments to demand better from businesses, so that people's rights are protected.

Fair on the Planet - Fairtrade is shining a spotlight on the climate crisis which is threatening the products we rely on every day – from coffee to bananas – as well as the livelihoods of the people who produce them.

Fair Pay - Many farmers are still paid less than it costs to produce their crops. Fairtrade is tackling this with **Minimum Prices** and the **Fairtrade Premium**, giving farmers protection when markets drop. This helps farmers to support their families and plan for their futures.

When we choose to buy Fairtrade, from over 5,000 products, we have a positive impact on real people's lives.

More information at
www.fairtrade.net



Community Garden Charity Cake and Coffee afternoon

On Tuesday 8 September, our Community Gardeners enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of coffee, cake and friendship, whilst also raising an impressive £262.73 for the Ryan Neuro Centre. Despite the rain (much needed, we are not complaining!), we were



delighted to welcome a great number of friends and supporters to the Centre. There was plenty of delicious homemade cake, tea and coffee, good conversation and lots of laughter. It was a lovely opportunity for people to come together and support a very worthwhile local cause.

The Ryan Neuro Centre is a self-supporting local charity which helps adults living with long-term neurological conditions. We are particularly pleased that the generosity of our visitors will help support the Centre's valuable work in our local community. A very big thank you to everyone who donated, and to all our Community Garden supporters and volunteers who shopped, baked, served refreshments and helped organise the afternoon. Your hard work and enthusiasm made it such a success. Now, it's back to gardening!

Our Community Gardeners meet every Tuesday from 2pm–4pm and have recently been clearing and tidying our pots and planters in preparation for



planting bulbs, which will hopefully provide a beautiful display of colour next spring.

Everyone is welcome to join us, whether you are an experienced gardener or simply fancy getting involved with the cake and chat, we'd love to see you!

Leander Garner, Centre Manager

Women's Group

The Women's Group is back after the summer break with a selection of activities for you to join. Meetings normally take place at the St Mildred's Centre on Bingham Road and the cost varies according to the activity, but we try to keep it as low as possible. If you have any ideas for new activities, please let us know. You don't need to be a church member to take part, and you are welcome to bring a friend.

Activities

Thursday 15 October at 8pm in the Small Hall

Cheese and wine tasting - Join us for an evening of alcohol-free wine and cheese tasting (supplied by Little Mouse in Norwood)

Thursday 19 November at 8pm in the Small Hall

Bulb planting - Plant a bulb 'lasagne' of beautiful spring bulbs for a cheerful splash of colour in your garden in 2027 - all material provided, just bring your own pot

Thursday 10 December at 8pm in the Small Hall

Christmas table decorations - Create a beautiful Christmas table decoration with fresh foliage and berries and enjoy some mulled wine and mince pies - you can bring your own secateurs and foliage from your garden for sharing

For more information about our activities or to join our WhatsApp group, please contact Rona Robins at ronamac@live.com or Alison McArthur at alisonmcarthur100@icloud.com

**Alison McArthur and
Rona Robins - Co-Chairs**



Sing, Sow & Grow

A Year of Growing Together

What a wonderful first year it has been for *Sing, Sow & Grow*, our Community Garden activity for pre-school children and their grown-ups. The idea behind *Sing, Sow & Grow* was simple: to give young children an opportunity to discover where our food comes from, get their hands in the soil and begin to understand the importance of caring for nature and the world around us. And, of course, we wanted it to be fun!

We began in May with our very first session, *Worms*, when the children discovered just how important these small creatures are to a healthy garden. From there, each month has brought a new theme and a new adventure. In June, we explored *Potatoes*, learning about one of our most familiar vegetables and discovering what happens beneath the soil. July brought *Weather*, as we looked at sunshine, rain and wind, and all the things plants need to grow. In August, we took a break from digging and planting for a special *Teddy Bears' Picnic*, enjoying singing, stories and a picnic together in the garden. September brought us to *Leaves*, giving us the chance to look closely at the changing season and to think about the important part leaves play in nature. Each session combines singing and stories, led by Maree from Musical Bumps Croydon, with a hands-on gardening activity, giving the children the opportunity to explore, discover and learn through play. The response to *Sing, Sow & Grow* has been wonderful. Every session so far has been fully subscribed, with a waiting list for places that become available through cancellations.

It seems particularly fitting that we will bring our first gardening year to a close with an October session all about *Harvest*, celebrating the wonderful abundance of fruits and vegetables that our gardens can produce when we care for them properly. Harvest is a perfect opportunity to reflect on everything the children have discovered during the year: that food doesn't simply appear on supermarket shelves, but begins with soil, seeds, sunshine, rain, pollinators and the care and attention of those who grow it.

After our October session, *Sing, Sow & Grow* will take a winter break. Given the success of the programme and the continued

demand for places, we are very much looking forward to continuing *Sing, Sow & Grow* in 2027, when we hope to welcome even more young children and their families to the garden.

At the heart of the project is something much bigger than simply growing vegetables. As a Christian community we hope that, in our own small way, *Sing, Sow & Grow* helps to promote the care of God's creation, encouraging children from an early age to appreciate the natural world, understand where their food comes from and recognise that we all have a part to play in looking after the wonderful world we have been given.

A huge "thank you" to all our Community Garden volunteers who have supported *Sing, Sow & Grow* during its first year and who have helped to make the sessions such a success. We hope the children will take away, not only happy memories and perhaps a little soil under their fingernails, but also a lifelong appreciation of nature, gardening and the food that grows all around us. Here's to another year of *Sing, Sow & Grow*!

Leander Garner, Centre Manager

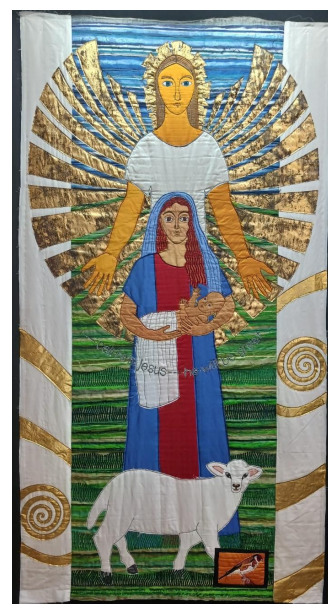
Threads Through the Cross

Southwark Cathedral is currently hosting an exhibition of intricate textile panels that depict the birth of Jesus and various scenes in his life, through to the cross, resurrection and Pentecost. Each panel is over 2 metres high and ranges from 1.5 to over 3 metres wide.



The exhibition is part of the hugely popular "*Threads Through the Bible*" trilogy by artist Jacqui Parkinson, which took over 10 years to complete and comprises a total of 44 panels and over 25 million stitches.

The exhibition runs until 7 October and is well worth a visit. Entrance is free but donations are welcome.



Karen Rooney

The Lit

New Season 2026-27

Programme for October and November in the Pavilion

‘Handley Brickworks, Woodside’

Tuesday 6 October ~ 8:00pm - 10:00pm

An illustrated talk by John Hickman & Edward Handley

‘100 Years of the Northern Line’

Tuesday 20 October ~ 8:00pm - 10:00pm

An illustrated talk by Christian Wolmar

‘Rail Fright Halloween Stories’

Tuesday 3 November ~ 8:00pm - 10:00pm

A talk by George Hoyle

‘Woodside Court’

Tuesday 17 November ~ 8:00pm - 10:00pm

An illustrated talk by Phil Swallow

Season Subscription costs £30

Non-members £5 per meeting

including tea, coffee and biscuits served before the talk
between 7.30pm and 8.00pm

Co-chairmen: Bernard Winchester and Stuart Smith
Enquiries: 020 8656 8056 or svdsmith@talktalk.net



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY

Penny and Lin



We recently celebrated the 80th birthdays of two longstanding members of St Mildred's.

On 28 June, Penny turned 80 and celebrated with her church family the following Sunday. Penny has been running St Mildred's Ladies' Choir for 40 years, as well as singing in the main choir and being an active member of the Mothers' Union.

Penny said *"I'd like to thank everyone for their lovely messages in my many cards, and huge thanks to Sharon for the wonderful cake."*



80 &
fabulous



On 8 September, Lin celebrated her 80th birthday. Lin was our Parish Secretary for many years and also used to help with the Parish Post. She would also like to thank everyone for their good wishes.

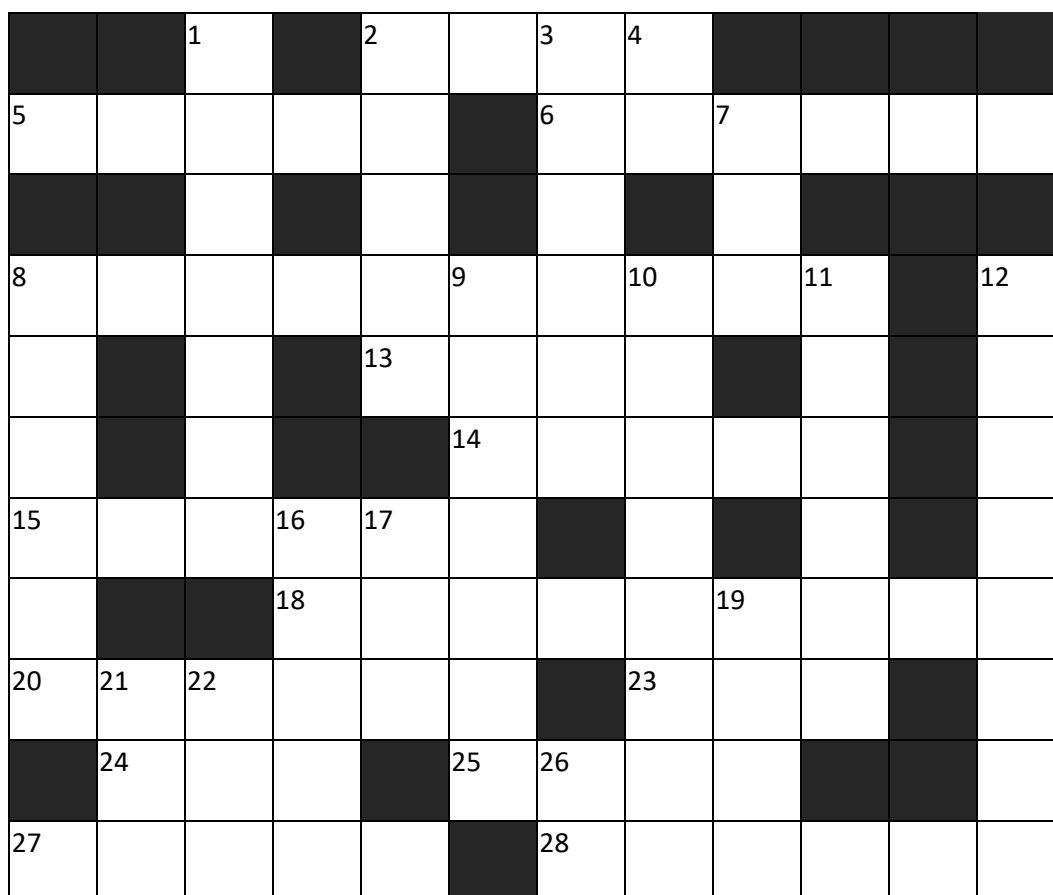
Congratulations ladies on your very special birthday and many happy returns!

Karen Rooney

Crossword 60

Have a go at Pat Howard's latest crossword!

Answers are on page 31 (the same for both sets of clues)



Cryptic Clues

Across

- 2 Viv arrives to cheer (4)
 5 Cook's hat sounds taken (5)
 6 Give class information (6)
 8 Butchers sound humorous (10)
 13 Loire, Rhone, Seine perhaps (4)
 14 Cause disgust at driving back (5)
 15 Rested while van finds route (6)
 18 Rust fungi structures (9)
 20 Scandinavian turnips (6)
 23 Raced along (3)
 24 Take all the space (3)
 25 Previous group (4)
 27 Name for sweetheart (5)
 28 Filled with rage (6)

Down

- 1 Pool exercise (4,3)
 2 Almost on edge (5)
 3 Patience is this (6)
 4 Headless man is indefinite (2)
 7 Beyond average (3)
 8 Lose these and lose the plot (6)
 9 Bring in the sheaves (7)
 10 Cook Dora Drake for example (8)
 11 Upstream swimmer (6)
 12 Big party after 9D (8)
 16 Hint with an elbow (5)
 17 Era comes into existence (3)
 19 Equal to (4)
 21 Ask their name (3)
 22 One's indefinite age (3)
 26 Brief greeting (2)

Quick Clues

Across

- 2 Spanish "hooray" (4)
- 5 Chef's hat (5)
- 6 Advise (6)
- 8 Puts to death (10)
- 13 French waters (4)
- 14 Force away (5)
- 15 Direction finder (6)
- 18 Diseases of wheat (9)
- 20 Root vegetables (6)
- 23 Moved with speed (3)
- 24 Big pig (3)
- 25 Those people (4)
- 27 Sweet produce of bees (5)
- 28 Very angry (6)

Down

- 1 Water aerobics (4,3)
- 2 Edge, boundary (5)
- 3 Sign of good character (6)
- 4 Indefinite article (2)
- 7 Long distance (3)
- 8 Humans have five (6)
- 9 Gather the ripe crop (7)
- 10 Traveller to the unknown (8)
- 11 Slam on food fish (6)
- 12 Celebration (8)
- 16 Push gently or prod (5)
- 17 They exist (3)
- 19 Identical (4)
- 21 TV doctor (3)
- 22 Extremely long time (3)
- 26 Quick "hello" (2)

Live Life Abundantly

On **Saturday 3 October at 11am at Southwark Cathedral** there will be a Service of Thanksgiving to mark this year's **Black History Month**, with a Eucharist at 1pm.

Over the course of the celebration event, they will be *'Honouring our Communities & Sharing our Stories'*, by featuring parishes, chaplaincies, school groups and Christian initiatives who "live life abundantly" (John 10:10), making a positive difference in the lives of Black-led and Black-majority communities across the Diocese. Shortlisted nominees will be honoured and their work shared during the service.

Everyone is invited for worship and to listen, learn, reflect and celebrate!

**Diocese of Southwark
(abridged)**

Sandilands Shantymen



The Sandilands Shantymen will be performing on

**Saturday 31 October 2026
at 2:00pm**

**at Warlingham Methodist Church
Limpsfield Road, Warlingham, CR6 9LE**

Admission is Free

Why not come and join us for an afternoon
of Sea Shanties and Folk Songs
and enjoy a good old-fashioned singalong!

Donations are requested for refreshments
and all proceeds will be donated to Church Funds

Contact List

Ministry Team

Fr Neil Brunskill (Vicar) 020 8676 1569
Revd Marie King (Hon Asst Priest - Retired)
Steve Chapman (Reader)
Rona Robins (Reader)

Parish Office

Jenny Nicholls and Jan Stead 020 8655 1434
(Tuesday - Friday)

Email: parishoffice@stmildredschurch.org.uk

Website: www.stmildredschurch.org.uk

Centre Manager

Leander Garner (Monday - Thursday) 020 8655 1434

Webmaster

Margaret Simmons 020 8655 1434

Parish Post Magazine

Karen Rooney Email: stmildredsparishpost@gmail.com

Copy deadline for next issue: Tuesday 10th October

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Officers

Church Wardens	Janet Palmer
	Alan Griffiths
Secretary	Vacant
Electoral Roll	Jenny Nicholls
Treasurer	Colin Simonds
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Christopher Hatton

Worship Team

Director of Music	Richard Mander
Live Streaming	Matt Webb
Ladies' Choir	Penny Locke
Flowers	Sharon Collins & Marie King
Readers' Rota	Rona Robins
Intercessions	Stephen Philcox
Weekly Prayer List	Margaret Simmons
Servers	Alan and Joy Griffiths
Sacristan	Lin Kensington

Children and Young People

Mountaineers (Sunday School)	Charlotte Hatton
Toddlers (Tues 9:30am - 11:15am, term time)	
Millies' Pre-School	Kerry Smith 07803 854939

Church and Community Groups

IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equality and Anti-Racism)	Judy Bennett
Social Team	Judy Bennett
Mothers' Union	Jackie Bartley
Bible Reading Notes	Jeff & Elizabeth Fleischer
Women's Group	Rona Robins & Alison McArthur
The Lit	Bernard Winchester
Friends of St Mildred's	Margaret Simmons
Addiscombe Neighbourhood Care (ANCA)	020 8654 5062
Association for Pastoral Care in Mental Health (APCMH)	020 8654 4010

For enquiries please contact the Parish Office on 020 8655 1434

Gardening Services

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07870 176707



To advertise in this space
please contact
the Parish Office

Here are the answers to Pat's Crossword No 60:

Across

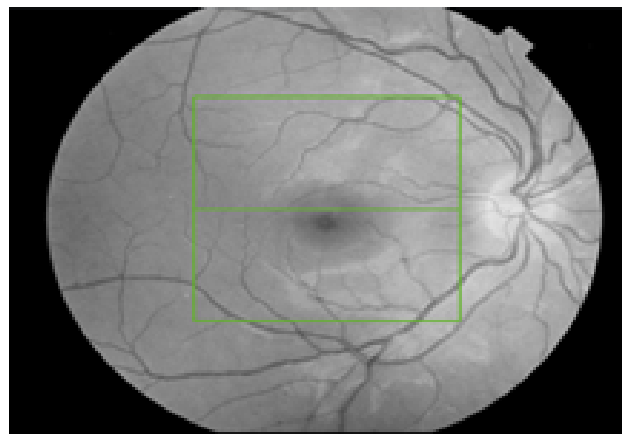
- 2 Viva
- 5 Toque
- 6 Inform
- 8 Slaughters
- 13 Eaux
- 14 Repel
- 15 SatNav
- 18 Uredosori
- 20 Swedes
- 23 Ran
- 24 Hog
- 25 Them
- 27 Honey
- 28 Ireful

Down

- 1 Aqua Fit
- 2 Verge
- 3 Virtue
- 4 An
- 7 Far
- 8 Senses
- 9 Harvest
- 10 Explorer
- 11 Salmon
- 12 Festival
- 16 Nudge
- 17 Are
- 19 Same
- 21 Who
- 22 Eon
- 26 Hi

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