



Wellsprings Benefice Newsletter

Hello!

I have always loved a good stationery stock, and September reminds me of the fun of buying pens, pencils and notebooks in readiness for a new school year. Not quite the same as using a laptop! My love of writing by hand continues to this day and I still enjoy the same multicoloured pens. I gain much pleasure in selecting the 'right card' and then settling down to put pen to paper. Hopefully the receiver also gets some enjoyment! Just a note, a few lines but it says I'm thinking of you and I care.

Don't forget to write and let me know if you have something going on in your church which you would like to share with others in the Benefice...and if you gain enjoyment from singing there's information below about an Evensong at Salisbury Cathedral you can join in with or if you too like some peace and quiet, there is the 'Cluster Day' at St Matthew's Church, Rowde.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Gill Murray

Wellsprings Benefice Administrator

Email: contact.wellsprings@gmail.com

Don't forget this weekend...Wiltshire Ride and Stride for Churches 12th September 2026



Wiltshire Ride + Stride

Worton and Marston, Bulkington and Seend are taking part in the Wiltshire Churches Open Day on 12th September. Join us on a bike, on foot or on horseback to keep Wiltshire's historic churches, chapels and meeting houses looking beautiful and open for the future by raising money for your own church and the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust.

Local organiser – Catherine Bridger. Email cathbridger@hotmail.com.

Christ Church, Worton will be open all day with cakes and refreshments available.

Christ Church, Bulkington will be open all day and there will be simple refreshments.

Holy Cross Church, Seend will be open with bottled water and biscuits for those making it up the hill!

How to sponsor our churches:

Worton and Marsden <https://www.justgiving.com/page/whctsept26>

Bulkington - Our organiser is Liz Futter, who will be cycling and would appreciate sponsors. Email lizfutter@mailcan.com or phone 01380 828485.

Seend – Len Murray and Anne Ewing are taking part. Their Just Giving page is:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/anne-ewing-3?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=EM

Ride and Stride more information:

Further general information can also be found on the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust page if needed <https://www.wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk/ride-stride/>

**“Cluster” Quiet Day, St Matthew’s Church, Rowde
Saturday 19 September 10am – 3pm**

Theme: Transitions

Autumn is a time of transition – often beautiful (mists and mellow fruitfulness), sometimes practical (clearing the gutters) but occasionally scary if the winter storms begin early. This quiet day offers a short time of peace, reflection and companionship to help us prepare for what is to come.

You’re very welcome to join us for as long or as little as you would like. We’ll provide tea, coffee and biscuits throughout the day. If you would like lunch, please bring your own or there is a village shop nearby.

There will be times of prayer and worship and plenty of space to be with God.

If you would like to come, please contact Norma Fergusson on vicar@rowdebromhambenefice.co.uk or 07799 545035 and bring a note book, pencil and bible.

On the day, park in Rowde Court Road and walk through the churchyard.

Tearfund Global Week of Prayer



Tearfund, the Christian development agency, is inviting churches to join the 24-7 Prayer Global Week of Prayer (6–13 September), praying for the 800+ million people living in extreme poverty, with a free guide, slides, and a virtual prayer room available to support participation. The email also promotes a new WhatsApp channel for emergency prayer requests. [Find out more through this link](#)

**Digital Conference Saturday 12th September 10am – 4pm
St Francis Church in Salisbury**

Whether you feel confident online or are still finding your way, the day is designed to be practical, encouraging and useful.

What to expect

Two keynote talks in the morning: Matt Batten, Director of Communications at the Diocese of Bangor, will speak on using AI to support ministry, and Joe Hartropp, Church



of England Digital Labs Manager, will share tips for using digital tools for mission on a budget.

Two practical workshops in the afternoon: you can choose from:

1. AI Prompts & Preaching - Matt Batten
2. Making Digital Part of Your Mission - Joe Hartopp
3. Using Social Media to Build Connections - the diocesan Communications team

There will also be time to meet with others and share ideas.

Tickets are £6 per person and include entry to the conference and refreshments throughout the day. Lunch is not provided, so please do bring your own.

You can book your place here:

<https://learning.salisbury.anglican.org/courses-events-resources/digital-conference-2/>

The Patch in Potterne opens as a community hub

The Patch is finally beginning to open!

Please join us on September 20th starting at noon to 5pm.

There was no village fête this year, so it would be lovely to mingle with everyone, come and let us know how Your Community Hub can help you!

Looking forward to seeing you there.

The Patch team



Come and Sing Evensong at Salisbury

Singers are invited to join the RSCM for its Come and Sing Service which is at Salisbury Cathedral.

The time commitment is 2.15 pm - 6.30 pm on Saturday 26 September.

Singers will have the chance to join with the Cathedral Choir under Director of Music, David Halls. Repertoire will include Stanford's Service in C and Richard Shephard *And didst thou travel light*.

The cost of the afternoon is £15 for adults and £5 for under 18s.

You can book here: <https://www.rscm.org.uk/whats-on/celebration-day/>

Gerry is going along and is happy to share transport.

The Rev'd Stuart Richards

He is going to be taking some services in the benefice over the next few months. Part of the reason for that is that he is exploring whether rural ministry is something he might be interested in. After seven years in parish ministry when he was younger, Stuart was an Army chaplain for 16 years. After finishing with the Royal Army Chaplains Department, he spent a few years out of active ministry but is now returning, and has recently been appointed

chaplain to Warminster School, which is a part-time role. Stuart currently lives in Netheravon.

Evening Home Group for working Adults

Are you interested in joining a home group that meets in the evening, for people who work during the day, to pray, socialise, and explore faith together? There are at least four people interested in attending one. If you'd like to join them, let Gerry know on rev@gerrylynch.co.uk or 07521 440 622.

Confirmation Classes

If you would like to be confirmed, or would just like to chat about what confirmation involves, please contact me on rev@gerrylynch.co.uk or 07521 440 622. You can't be confirmed twice, but if you were confirmed when you were younger but have lapsed from Christian practice, you can renew your original confirmation vows - please contact me if you would be interested in that.

The Open the Book Team in Potterne and Worton needs your help please!

Open the Book (OtB) is an exciting storytelling project. As invited guests in school, teams prepare and present a 10–15-minute scripted Bible story to a school assembly, involving the children as much as possible

If you would like to know more about this valuable outreach role, please have a chat with Jean Lane at Christ Church, Worton or Jackie Sawyer at St Mary's, Potterne.

Jean Lane: phone: 01380 722069, email - joje@talktalk.net

Jackie Sawyer: phone: 07810 132936, email - jackiesawyer50@gmail.com

Rev Gerry's Photo Talks Autumn 2026

If you missed some of Gerry's photo-illustrated talks the first time they ran, he is repeating three of his talks this autumn - all for church funds. Don't miss these excellent opportunities to travel the world in your imagination. Proceeds are for church funds and you can book through the links below.

Kyiv Before the Invasion

7.30 pm, Friday 25 September, Potterne Village Hall

A journey through a thousand years of Ukrainian history and a city more beautiful than you ever imagined.



[Click to book ticket for £7.50.](#)

Why On Earth Kyrgyzstan?

7 pm, Friday 16 October, Irene Usher Memorial Pavillion, Seend

A photographic introduction to this magnificent but little known country on the roof of the world.



[Click to book ticket for £7.50.](#)

Change and Charm in China

7 pm, Friday 20 November, Poulshot Village Hall

High tech cities harbour ancient temples in a vast country which has never been more prosperous, or more powerful.



[Click to book ticket for £7.50.](#)

Upcoming services

This Sunday 13th September (Trinity 15)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Seend
9.30am	Family Service/ Harvest Festival	Worton
9.30am	Communion (BCP)	Poulshot
11am	Communion	Potterne
11am	Communion	Bulkington
6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Potterne

Next Sunday 20th September (Trinity 16)

8am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9.30am	Communion	Worton
9.30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
11am	Morning Praise	Potterne
11am	Harvest Communion	Seend
4pm	Evensong (BCP)	Poulshot

Every Tuesday, 9am Said Matins at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayer during the week.

Best wishes and every blessing from all of the Ministry team

Please visit our website www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk for more details of all our services, latest updates and to keep in touch.