

The Link

October 2026



Shanklin United Reformed Church



View From Number 10



View from Number 10

I have just returned from the Evangelical Alliance Council meeting where we were exploring the challenges of being Good News people in what is a polarised society.

We are all aware just how divided Britain is at the moment, with certain issues very much to the fore – assisted dying, immigration, and gender ideology to name but a few. Christians can also take very different viewpoints and there have been a lot of conversations about Christian Nationalism and how much of it seems to conflict with the Bible's teaching on the Kingdom of God.

It was again a privilege to be in a room with such a great bunch of Christian leaders – around 80 people drawn from churches, Christian organisations, the business world, and media - along with many of the EA staff. I tend to feel quite humbled by the wisdom and giftings when among this awesome body of people; several have become good friends over the last decade, and we find that we pick up conversations from a year ago.

It was challenging to consider how we as followers of Jesus must follow his example of meeting people where they are and avoiding hasty judgments about their views. It is easy to retreat into safe spaces where people share the same ideas as us but, as God's people, we are called to cross the room and engage with those with whom we may disagree. It is important to learn to listen to other people's views and to show them respect – and to love fellow Christians who embrace different perspectives and traditions and seek to journey with them as much as we can.

Social media is prone to feed us information that underpins our views or presents us with outrageous extremes of the very opposite kind that get our hackles up. Such algorithms subtly fuel divisions and can result in real hatred and online bullying and trolling. As Christians, we need to engage prayerfully with what we come across and avoid any

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hasty responses. We need to stand back and consider where the information has come from and try and read things through God's eyes, keeping clean hands and a pure heart.

Let's rise to the challenge of taking a mature and godly approach to issues which cause conflict, and to behave well – we must learn to disagree in an agreeable manner, maintaining relationships as much as possible and do all we can to live at peace with everyone (Romans 12:18). The church of Jesus must be different in the kind of ways he taught – to be both salt and light, helping preserve what is good and exposing the dark things around us.

My prayer is that we will all grow in maturity as we engage with challenging issues and to show patience and understanding with those who we might be inclined to judge. May the Holy Spirit equip us to serve the Lord in ways that honour him and cause others to look on and ask what makes these people different.

With my very best wishes for this autumn season,

Brian



Shanklin URC is one of over 3,000 churches that are members of Evangelical Alliance in the UK. Three more Island congregations have joined this year. There are also over 500 Christian organisations who belong and 31,000 personal members...

Prayer



Prayer - always at the heart of our life

Monday Prayer at 13:00 – a weekly meeting in church. This is especially to pray about our priorities for us as God's people going forward and seeking kingdom growth.

Tuesday Prayer at 19:30 - Continues each week via Zoom using the same account as for other activities and groups:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3242665584?pwd=ZTIXZzBLWnkrWTNB Y2JBK1o0K2ZXdz09> or use the Zoom app and click on 'Join a meeting'. The Meeting ID you will need is 324 266 5584, and the Password is: 936536.

Text Prayer Network - If you have an urgent and important issue that needs immediate cover, please text Lou on **07514 766798** (or, as a back-up, Jean Cunningham on: 07854 324809) with your prayer request and she will mobilise a team of intercessors by forwarding the message to the group. Each of the team will pray and then delete the message.

If you'd like to be added to this network, please get in touch with Lou and she will brief you on the protocols.

Pray for The Bay – these monthly meetings are on hold at the moment due to ill health.

Next Prayer Sabbath – coming up on 23rd - 24th October
24 hours set aside to honour the Lord and seek his face... See details opposite and please come and join in as much as you can.



*"I call on you, my God, for you will answer me;
turn your ear to me and hear my prayer."*

Psalm 17:6

**Please join us for another dedicated period
engaging with the Lord...**



A Sabbath of Prayer...

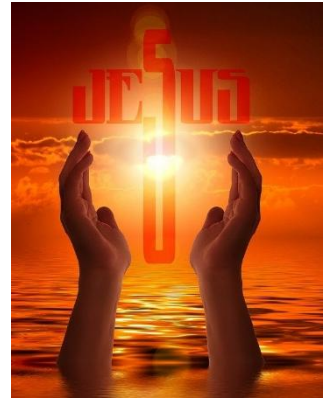
from 18:00 on Friday 23rd Oct

(Sunset)

to

18:00 on Saturday 24th Oct

24 hours dedicated to God



The church will be open at these times:

Friday 18:30 – 20:30 – Praise & Prayer

Saturday 10:00 – 12:00 – Coffee etc on arrival

15:30 – 17:30

Ending with Breaking of Bread at 17:00

This time, we'll follow a similar pattern to April as we seek the Lord together as to how he wants to lead us into growth:

Friday evening will be dedicated to prayer and praise as we seek to draw closer to the Lord. Saturday morning will be more of a time of waiting in God's presence and listening for his voice. You are invited to write things down or draw a picture and post them on the board.

As we gather again in the afternoon, we'll try and draw things together and discern what God has been saying – closing with a short informal celebration of The Lord's Supper.

SURC October Prayer Diary

We have again included a prayer diary for you to use daily, covering a wide range of topics to be prayed for as the Spirit leads you.

Thu 1	Teachers & children at Island schools	Fri 16	Church tech team - and for the tech used
Fri 2	Our junior church	Sat 17	Messy Church today
Sat 3	The prayer life of the church	Sun 18	Churches on the IoW spreading God's Word
Sun 4	Those who aren't well enough to get to church	Mon 19	People suffering from dementia & their families
Mon 5	Rise & Shine initiative	Tue 20	Safety of children
Tue 6	Those affected by violence and conflicts around the world	Wed 21	The Persecuted Church and the organisations supporting it
Wed 7	The Well - volunteers, regulars and visitors	Thu 22	The Island's emergency services
Thu 8	Those affected by natural disasters	Fri 23	Vulnerable children & adults and their carers
Fri 9	Shanklin Town Council and Isle of Wight Council	Sat 24	Text prayer network, & Lou who organises it
Sat 10	UK Government	Sun 25	Prayer ministry team
Sun 11	European Union	Mon 26	Care homes on IoW
Mon 12	United Nations	Tue 27	Our minister, Brian
Tue 13	World peace	Wed 28	IoW Youth for Christ
Wed 14	Home groups	Thu 29	Church property team
Thu 15	The NHS; staff, patients and services	Fri 30	Those leading worship and prayers
		Sat 31	The Light Alternative Open House

A Big Thank You

A massive 'Thank You' to you all.

At this year's BBQ, due to the amazing generosity of so many people, especially our wonderful church family, we raised £1,600.00. We have now given £1,000.00 to Ability Dogs (isle of Wight) and £600.00 to Help 4 Heroes.

Thank you all for support and help for this year's event.

God Bless

Malc & Miriam



FUNDRAISING
IN SUPPORT OF
**HELP for
HEROES**

Connection Quiz

1. Which city in Italy is known there as '*Firenze*'?
2. Which US singer wrote '*Blowing in the Wind*'?
3. Jeane Carole Lees, a British-Jamaican TV personality, TV chef, actress and singer, is known professionally by what name?
4. Who was the narrator of the BBC TV program '*Trumpton*'?
5. Which Father Ted character was portrayed by Ardal O'Hanlon?
6. So, what is the **connection** between the answers to questions 1 - 5?
7. The cover photo was taken in Normandie, near a famous bridge, but do you know where?

Answers are on page 43



ENCOUNTER

On the last Sunday of each month at 10:30

**A café style meeting place to drop in and enjoy
time together with God**



**A relaxed time of Friendship, Fun, Food
and exploring Faith...
with craft, songs, challenges, prayers...**

EVERYONE is welcome – why not bring a friend?

**The next café service will be on 25th October – do
please invite friends to join you for this more
informal service**

Don't forget that the clocks go back!

– café serving from 10:15

Website of the month:

[Open Doors](#)

***Over 388 million Christians face high levels of persecution and
discrimination – that's one in seven believers worldwide. You
can stand with those who are courageously following Jesus.***

Shanklin United Reformed Church Harvest Charity 2026

Feed the Bay

At our church meeting on 23rd July, we decided that our Harvest Charity Appeal should focus on local 'food-based' needs. We will focus our giving during our Harvest Encounter service on Sunday 27th September, when we will be encouraged to bring non-perishable items for the Isle of Wight Foodbank, along with financial contributions to the 2026 appeal.



We have recently donated towards feeding children during school holiday periods at the Bay Schools, and this is likely to be an ongoing need. In the current climate, we anticipate multiple different 'needs' in several 'places' within the Bay communities. Church Meeting felt that this would be a way to meet both immediate needs and those in the longer term.

These gifts will be made towards a new 'fund' entitled **Feed The Bay**. Our treasurer and Elders will administer this fund, and we will provide regular reports to church meetings.

Envelopes are available in the church and will identify the appeal. Please do prayerfully consider how you may be able to help. The envelopes can be placed in the usual Green Bucket.

Thanks

Robin



Harvest Chip Supper



Friday, 2nd October 2026 @ 18:30

(doors open @ 18:00)

We are having our fellowship Harvest supper at the beginning of October this year. Arrangements have been made for Paramount Café to supply our food once again (choices will be as usual).

This is always a popular and fun time to meet together over food and conversation, and we would like as many of us as possible to come along... and please do remember to invite a guest if you can!

There is a sign-up list at the back of the church; please sign up as soon as you can, and invitation cards are also available.

As usual, we will be asking folk to bring along cakes, etc. for us all to enjoy after the main event; please sign on the list if you can help with this.

Please do speak to Brian or myself if cost is an issue, and we will make the necessary arrangements; we do not want anyone to miss out!

If you can help lay out the church or serve and clear, please do let me know. Sue W will be our 'treasurer' for the evening as usual; please do make payment to her during the evening.

Thanks

Robin



So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir." (Galatians 4:7)

**FREEDOM
IN CHRIST**

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery"
(Galatians 5:1)

Forgiveness 2

Last time we looked at the choice we all have ... Neil now explains the cost and the process of those choices ...

The Cost And The Process Of Forgiveness

"Forgive your brother from your heart" (Matthew 18:35)

"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you" (Luke 6:27,28)

Forgiveness is agreeing to live with the consequences of another person's sin. Forgiveness is costly; we pay the price of the evil we forgive. Yet you're going to live with those consequences whether you want to or not; your only choice is whether you will do so in the bondage of bitterness or the freedom of forgiveness. That's how Jesus forgave you. He took the consequences of your sin upon Himself. All true forgiveness is substitutional, because no one really forgives without bearing the penalty of the other person's sin.

Why then do we forgive? **Because Christ forgave us!**

God the Father ***"made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God"*** (2 Corinthians 5:21). Where is the justice? The cross makes forgiveness legally and morally right: ***"For the death that He died, He died to sin, once for all"*** (Romans 6:10).

How do you forgive from the heart? First, you acknowledge the hurt and the hate. If your forgiveness doesn't visit the emotional core of your past, it will be incomplete. This is the great evangelical cover-up.

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Christians feel the pain of interpersonal offences, but we won't acknowledge it. Let God bring the pain to the surface so He can deal with it. This is where the healing takes place.

Ask God to bring to your mind those you need to forgive, and make a list of all those who have offended you. Since God has forgiven them by His grace, you can forgive them too. Keep praying about each individual until you are sure that all the remembered pain has been dealt with. Don't try to rationalise or explain the offender's behaviour.

Forgiveness deals with your pain, not another's behaviour: positive feelings will follow in time; freeing yourself from the past is the critical issue.

Here are 12 simple steps you can use to walk through the process of forgiving someone who hurt you in the past:

1 Ask God to reveal to your mind the people you need to forgive and make a list.

2 Acknowledge the hurt and the hate. To forgive from your heart (as Jesus instructed), you must let God search the depths of your heart.

3 Understand the significance of the cross. It is the cross of Christ that makes forgiveness legally and morally right (Hebrews 10:10).

4 Decide that you will bear the burden of each person's sin, not using past information against them (Proverbs 17:9 & Luke 6:27-34)

5 Decide to forgive. Forgiveness is a conscious choice to let someone off the hook; to get on with your life; to walk away free in Christ.

6 Take your list of names to God and pray the following:

"Heavenly Father, I forgive _____ for _____ because it made me feel _____"

7 Destroy the list. You are now free. Your forgiveness is between you and God (unless someone has asked you for forgiveness).

8 Don't expect your decision to forgive to result in major changes in other people. Instead, pray for them (Matthew 5:44 & 2 Corinthians 2:7)

9 Try to understand the people you have forgiven, but never rationalise away the sin.

10 Forgiveness is not about feeling good; it is about being free! In time, you will be able to think about the people who offended you without feeling hurt or anger.

11 Thank God for the lessons you have learned and the maturity you have gained ~ now you can grow as a Christian!

12 If appropriate, confess your part in any sin and know that you are forgiven (1 John 1:9). If someone has something against you, go to that person and seek reconciliation (Matthew 5:23-26).

Lord, I desire to be free from the hurt and the hate of offences in my past. Today I move beyond desiring to forgive and asking Your help to forgive. Teach me how to love unconditionally and forgive quickly those who hate me, curse me or mistreat me.

Neil Anderson

Freedom in Christ Ministries

Used by permission

This process takes time, and it can cause some turmoil, but I find that if you take that to the Lord, He will help you through it. You may find it useful to talk to someone you trust before, during, and after the process. Please speak to Brian, me, or any one of the elders who will be happy to help you through it.

Removing unforgiveness from our hearts and minds is central to the Freedom in Christ teaching. In the New Year, we are planning to run this course in the church (probably on Friday afternoons) ~ please look out for details... many who have attended have found this course life-changing ~ I know I did!

Robin

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Have you considered that God wants to talk to you?

We all know and accept that prayer can be powerful, that the Lord loves to hear from his children and that Jesus modelled prayer perfectly. But have you considered that God wants to talk to you?

This short but powerful course is designed to start you on the journey to a two-way conversation with God that can impact your personal life and make you more effective for his Kingdom.

We will learn together by:

- Listening to short pieces of teaching taken from the Dunamis Project Course
- Small group work with exercises designed to help us practice how to hear God's voice
- Space to listen to God as individuals
- Listening to God corporately and sharing what we have heard.



Listening to God:

The Zoom calls will be on these two evenings:

Wednesdays 21st and 28th October 2026

All will be from 19:00 – 20:45

Registration

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You must register for Listening to God to receive your personal Zoom link for the calls. Please note: The live calls will not be recorded due to their interactive nature.

[Listening to God webpage - more information and registration](#) go to:

<https://ybyplj.clicks.mlsend.com/tj/c/eyJ2ljoie1wiYVwiOjgwNjg4NixclmxcljoxODk1MDQ1MzkzNjQxNjQ2MjMsXCJyXCI6MTg5NTA0NTUzMjQzMTE2ODAwfSlzInMiOiI5ODVhNGU2YTQ1OWM1MjIxIn0>

As always, we encourage you to extend this invitation to your friends and colleagues. Maybe you would find it helpful to watch through the teaching videos together as a small group?

Sundays at 17:00 each week:

Make sense of life

Explore some of the big questions

The Alpha Course



beginning with afternoon tea

These are interactive informal sessions to discuss the Christian faith and ask questions

***Please be praying for a fruitful time
– series started 20th September***

Do we have a voice?

How privileged we have been to have lived in a nation where we can speak up (albeit as Christians to do so with grace), when we see injustices or issues of particular concern to us as Christians.

For many of our brothers and sisters this is not the case – their voices cannot be heard or are drowned out by other voices hostile to them.

The latest edition of **Voice of Persecuted Christians (Oct – Dec 2026)** is focusing on believers who although being persecuted and hated because of their faith, have responded with love and forgiveness, thus obeying the command of Jesus to: “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you,” (Luke 6:27).

What a witness this is to us living in a society where there ‘is contention’ for the Gospel and increasing division in communities.

Please take a copy of this latest edition from Voice of Persecuted Christians (previously Release International). To quote, “The stories in there are a powerful reminder of why we in the UK need to hear the voice of persecuted Christians. Such stories inspire and challenge.”

Voice of Persecuted Christians along with other similar ministries are setting aside Sunday 1st November this year as the International Day of Prayer for the persecuted church. Maybe you might make a note in your diary and on that day offer up an extra prayer to support our brothers and sisters.

To help in this, Voice has a prayer leaflet ‘Prayer Shield’ included with the magazine and the Open Doors Prayer Diary will also help with Prayer Pointers. These resources can be found on the trolley in church or in the lobby.

Thank you for any support for these vital ministries and in particular, our persecuted church family so appreciate our prayers, so that they will be enabled to stand firm in their faith in the ‘time of trial’.

Blessings in Jesus’ Name

Jane H

Sources: Voice of Persecuted Christians/Open Doors

God With Us: Thy Kingdom Come 2026 Reprise

Last time we looked at [The Spirit of Listening](#) from both the TKC Novena (by Archbishop Sarah Mullally) and the Prayer Journal (by Rev Canon Chris Russell). Now we turn to ...

The Spirit of Confidence

Judges 6:11-14

¹¹ The angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. ¹² When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, ‘The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.’

¹³ ‘Pardon me, my lord,’ Gideon replied, ‘but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, “Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?” But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian.’

¹⁴ The Lord turned to him and said, ‘Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?’

In situations where we feel hopeless and that there is nothing we can do to help, we want God to fix it for us. But what does God tell us instead (even when – or perhaps particularly when – we are indignant towards him)?

‘Go in the strength you have ... Am I not sending you?’

He sends us to do what we would have him do!

Today, we might feel short on hope for those we have been earnestly praying for, feeling that there is nothing we can do to bring them closer to God – but the Spirit bids us not to despair. He tells us not to wait for God to act, but sends us out in the strength we have, telling us to do what we can – because, whether we recognise it or not, ‘the Lord is with you.’

The story of Gideon isn’t just a Sunday school teacher’s dream. Amidst all the drama, here is someone who isn’t an obvious candidate to do an extraordinary thing, and that sounds suspiciously like us!

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The promise is for Gideon, and for us today. It is simple – the Lord says, ‘I will be with you.’ He guarantees His proximity, nearness, and closeness.

The Holy Spirit is the power that makes connections. Connecting us with God, and with others, and opening us up to do what is only possible with God. And because of this, we can have confidence (literally con = with and fidence = faith). Take heart! Have faith! God is close in Spirit to you – enabling you to live, work, speak and love for Him.

‘Lord, give me what You are requiring of me.’ [St Augustine of Hippo]

So let us pray that we do not fail to act but respond with confidence to the call of the Spirit sending us out. For God will work through us, in the strength that we have.

Robin

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What a wonderful family!

How can we thank enough our lovely church family who have come to our aid after Mike’s licence (and we pray temporarily) was not renewed, due to eye issues. Two more operations are on the cards, but this will all take time.

We have been bowled over by all the help already received – trips to hospital, help with shopping and lifts to church, and of course, much prayer support.

We are needing to get used to the ‘new normal’ but our dear church family are definitely helping us, enormously and so to everyone who has offered to support us or already done so, we say a **massive ‘Thank You’** – you are amazing!

With very much love and God Bless you always,

Jane & Mike xxx

Our Next Church Meeting

26th November 2026 @ 19:30

Refreshments from 19:00

All members and regular worshippers are encouraged to come along as we seek to plan ahead.

Copies of the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting will be available ahead of the meeting so we can all come prepared.

As usual, the usual Zoom link will be provided for those who cannot make it in person via the regular meeting space.



Details of the Zoom link and how to access the meeting are on page 4.

Don't just go to church – be the church!

Homegroups

Would all homegroup leaders please get in touch with me and give me the details of the groups location, day/night it takes place, the time, as well as giving me an update on who's in the group.

I need to update the database as soon as possible.

I can be contacted by:

- email at stceciliedemusique@gmail.com, or
- mobile: 07531 284797.

Thank you.

Sheilagh



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

21st September – 4th October 2026

Fairtrade Fortnight unites consumers and brands from the third Monday of September through the following Sunday for two weeks of advocacy. This special festival recognises and celebrates farmers and workers in developing countries, highlighting issues of underpayment and exploitation. **Join the global movement by choosing Fairtrade-certified products, supporting ethical brands, and spreading awareness.**

Fairtrade Fortnight focuses on ethical purchasing and advocacy. Consumers are encouraged to seek out and purchase products bearing the Fairtrade Mark, directly supporting fair wages and sustainable practices for farmers and workers in developing countries.

Many brands consistently use Fairtrade ingredients and often highlight their commitments during this period. Look for special campaigns from retailers that promote Fairtrade items. The Fairtrade Foundation run donation-matching programs and awareness campaigns. For more information, see www.fairtrade.net/uk-en.html.

Shanklin United Reformed Church is registered with the Fairtrade Foundation, and we support their initiatives in what we purchase ourselves. **During this 'special' fortnight we encourage all in the fellowship to seek out Fairtrade alternatives in their purchasing.** There will be more information (and possibly an inflated banana!) on display during the period.

A message from 250 Kenyan tea farmers

Earlier this year, over 250 Kenyan tea farmers shared a powerful message with UK tea drinkers: **The global tea trade is letting them down.**

Low wages, climate shocks, and an unfair system are making life in the sector increasingly difficult. Their open letter calls for change - and solidarity.

Dear tea drinkers, tea businesses and the government in the UK. As the people behind the tea you drink, we write to you today to urge you to use your power for good. We know that tea is drunk by millions in the UK, that it can bring people together and provide comfort or a moment to rest and revive.

Tea also has the power to change lives in our communities. As growers and pickers, we work hard to nurture and care for the tea we grow, so we can earn a decent living for our families. When we earn enough money, we can educate our children, keep them safe

with school transport, adapt our farming methods to protect the environment around us, and look after the health of our communities with access to clean water and medicine. We want to see the people in our local communities thrive.

But today, we come together to tell you the scales of the global tea trade are not tipped in favour of those of us growing and picking the leaves behind your cup of tea.



The price we earn today for the hard work behind your favourite drink is just too low. As this continues to drop, our outgoings are rising, and this simply cannot continue. Many of the people picking tea on estates around the world earn significantly below what is considered a 'living wage' and are struggling to support their families.

This unbalanced global tea trade drives other challenges for those working in tea around the world, including poor living conditions, a lack of health and safety protections, and unequal power for women. On top of this, the rapidly changing climate is making it harder and harder to grow our delicate tea leaves, with risks of flooding, drought and increasing plant diseases all increasing costs and pressure for us. By 2050, climate change is expected to reduce the conditions for growing our tea here in Kenya by a quarter. Established farmers and young people hoping to see a future in tea are increasingly worried about the future for themselves and their families.

As tea drinkers, businesses and the government in the UK, you have the power to change lives alongside the people behind your favourite brew. **Will you use your power for good?**

The reality is that what is happening here impacts us all. We all rely on the same global food system. When tea growers struggle, tea drinkers will feel the impact too.

We know that people in the UK care about protecting each other, upholding human rights and tackling climate change. We have written this letter, as a united group of farmers and growers within the Fairtrade network, to urgently call on the UK to support us in changing our collective future.

We are asking business and policymakers in the UK to use your power to protect human rights, support us in responding to the impacts of climate change and work with us for a better future for tea growers and workers everywhere.

When we work together, we are stronger.

Signed,

Kenyan tea farmers and workers (from Nduti Tea Factory Company Ltd, Gacharage Tea Factory Company Ltd, Momul Tea Factory Company Ltd, Browns Tea Estates).



A Fairtrade Prayer



Dear Lord, who prayed, "Give us today our daily bread," we give thanks for those who work to produce our food and pray they may be given fair reward for their labours.

We pray for those who grow the things we love that can't be grown in the UK, including our favourite cup of tea, coffee and bananas.

We pray for communities where a fair price sends children to school and supports basic health care.

We pray that you will guide the Fairtrade movement in its efforts to secure a fair deal for those whose bargaining power is weakest.

We pray for supermarkets, brands and other retailers that they will recognise that everyone involved in the produce they buy and sell is important, and that sustainable communities and a sustainable planet depend on fairness for everyone in our food supply chains.

We pray for shoppers here in the UK facing cost-of-living challenges that they will recognise that fairness is for everyone.

When we come together socially and share a cuppa, in church, at parties or organised events, help us to remember to **Brew It Fair**.

Amen

Bible Society Update

News from England and Wales



Taking Bible storytelling into more than 2,000 schools in England and Wales through the Open the Book programme is just one of many projects being driven forward.

Many more people here are becoming spiritually open and thanks to our supporters we are expanding Bible mission to point these people towards Jesus through the Scriptures.

Bible sales are growing and thanks to our supporters, the Everyday Faith Bible has been published.

With over 1,000 prompts to help you understand, reflect and respond to Scripture, this Bible equips you to live out your faith with confidence, wherever you are.

Thanks to you:

- The Bible Course and The Romans Course have been produced,
- a parliamentary prayer breakfast engages with politicians,
- think tank Theos promotes the Bible through public life
- and thousands of Bibles are provided in prisons.

Please pray

- Pray that children will never forget the Bible stories that they hear through Open the Book. Also, ask God to bless the new Explore the Book holiday club that takes Bible stories into public spaces.
- Ask God to prompt tens of thousands more spiritually open people here to take that step into a church or open the Bible.
- Pray that those new to the faith in England and Wales will remain strong and stay focused on Jesus.

Find out more at www.biblesociety.org.uk

Source: Bible Society

The Well

a place for

Living Well Together

Drop in at any point

Wednesdays 11:00 – 12:30

A safe place for friendship, a chat,
crafts, support and refreshments



And short mat bowls!



Open The Book to Genesis



The Pharaoh at the time of Joseph was happy to have Jacob bring his whole family to Egypt. Jacob's descendants

multiplied. A new Pharaoh came to the throne. He was worried about the Hebrews.

What if they joined his enemies? He turned them into slaves – but still their numbers kept growing.



Pharaoh called the midwives and told them to kill every newborn Hebrew boy. But the midwives trusted in the one true God and did not obey Pharaoh.



Pharaoh asked: 'Why aren't you killing the baby boys?' They replied: 'The Hebrew women are strong. By the time we get there, the baby is already born.'



Pharaoh ordered his troops: 'Throw all Hebrew boys in the Nile!'



BUT

One mother was determined to save her son.



Jochebed wove a basket, then painted it with tar, inside and out



to make it waterproof.



She kissed her son and put him in.



She floated the basket among the bullrushes at the side of the Nile then told her daughter to hide and watch what happened.



From the reeds at the side of the river, big sister, Miriam, saw Pharaoh's daughter coming to bathe. (please excuse the different actors!)





Pharaoh's daughter saw the basket and sent her servant to fetch it.

When Pharaoh's daughter opened the basket there was the baby.



Even though she knew he must be a Hebrew, she decided to adopt him.



But Pharaoh's daughter could not feed the baby. Miriam popped up from her hiding place and said:



'I know someone who can nurse the baby for you.' Miriam was told to bring the woman

So Jochebed was able to continue breastfeeding her son, and she was paid to care for him!

When the child was weaned, Jochebed took him back to Pharaoh's daughter. And the name of the child?



Moses, which sounds like 'draw out' because Pharaoh's daughter had drawn him out of the water.

Moses grew up in the household of Pharaoh, but he never forgot that he was a hebrew.



One day, Moses saw a slavedriver beating a hebrew slave.



Moses killed the slavedriver



And buried the body in the sand.

The next day Moses saw two hebrews fighting. When he tried to stop them, they asked: "Are you going to kill us like you killed the slavedriver?"



Moses knew his crime was known. He ran away.

Make sure you get the November link for the next thrilling installment!

Good News for All!

'Good News' is a contemporary outreach newspaper used by churches and missions to take the good news about Jesus Christ into communities across the UK.

Every month, Good News reaches thousands of readers with true stories of how God is changing the lives of those who put their trust in his Son, Jesus. Using jargon-free language, it also explains how everyone can find a personal relationship with Jesus.

A great resource for people to read - and then share with others!!

This month's edition (available to read online at www.goodnews-paper.org.uk/viewlatesteditionpage.htm) has several great articles, including the headline article 'Ghostbusters See The Light - Paranormal 'experts' find the truth about the spirit world.'

Other contributions include:

- **Witch No More** - Woman breaks free from generations of witchcraft
- **New Age: Old Deception** - New Age life coach finds the real Guide to life
- **Tik-Tok Tarot Star** - Tarot reader gives it up for God
- **Saved From Suicide** - Former addict saved by hearing the voice of God
- **Dolly Parton** - Iconic singer believed God has a plan for us all
- **Sam Ryder** - Takes on the Jesus role that brought actors to tears
- **Cricketer Who Changed History** - Zimbabwe player's courage came from God

Good News... for a change





Isle of Wight Street and School Pastors



Street Pastors

Its been a very busy summer from May to September with non-stop patrols and events.

Huge **Thank You** to everyone who donated items or money towards the IoW Festival patrols.

We had the biggest and busiest weekend there to date.

These are just some of the stats from over four days there:

- Volunteers = 64 (Mainland and Island)
- Teams = 60
- Man hours = 1,013
- Conversations = 2,353 approx.
- Bibles given out = 6 (some also downloaded the Bible app on their phones)
- Sweets given out = thousands (we had more than ever before and still ran out by Sunday lunchtime)

Next year is looking to be even bigger and better.

We have also carried out patrols during Cowes Week, Pride, Scooter Rally weekend and Newport Illuminated carnival, as well as our regular patrols in Newport and Ryde and opening our Safe Space.

This year we have also added Robin Hill to our events. Robin Hill are now doing a lot more private events and asked us to be their welfare team, working alongside the security and medical teams.

So far, we have done the Big Dance Weekender, Wytwoods Festival, Strings weekend and The Dance Weekender Summer Party. We will also be helping at their Halloween event in October.

In between all of the above, we have had Street and School Pastor awareness stands at the County Show and during Cowes Week.

This has proved to be our busiest summer yet.

We are very grateful for all the prayers; we couldn't do this ministry

without it.

School Pastors

I have recently taken on the School Pastor Coordinator role as well Street Pastor Coordinator.

Recently we have faced some challenging times with this ministry, but God is good, and we will be back in schools from October.

Currently we are mentoring students and patrolling at break/lunchtimes in Medina College (Thursdays), Carisbrooke College (Tuesdays) and Lift Ryde (Mondays). We also run a Lunch club in The Bay (senior school) on a Friday.

Mental Health services are so backlogged which means students being referred to them are waiting months (approx. 8 months currently) to even be assessed. Students are struggling and school staff are limited to how many they can talk to.

We currently have an ever-growing list of students being referred to us by the schools to mentor.

A lot of students find it difficult to speak to family members and school staff for various reasons, so they come to us where we listen, offer techniques, play games and give resources to help them.

Not all the students we see are waiting to see mental health services as sometimes just being in school is hard.

The types of issues we mentor students with are anxiety, resilience, friendships, self-harm, anger, bereavement and transgender.

How can you help

- Volunteer either for Street Pastors and/or School Pastors – we have a busy diary for Street Pastors and an ever-growing list of students needing our help.
- Become a prayer pastor (all done via WhatsApp)
- Donate to the charity
- Become a Trustee for the charity
- Spread the word about Street and School Pastors

If you would like to know more about volunteering or anything else, please speak to me or contact me.

One of the Trustees and I are currently booking in churches where

we can speak about the work of Street and School Pastors and hopefully recruit new volunteers.

Suzanne McCaffery
Street and School Pastor Coordinator
suzanne@iowstreetpastors.org.uk
07511 163632

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Shoebox Time Again!

Sandra Snell, our local contact for the annual Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child is again putting on fund-raising events to collect for the shoeboxes.

Below are details of these and all are invited – booking for the meals is essential, but for the Coffee Mornings, just turn up! All of these are at 45 Alfred Road, Lake.

We have enjoyed going for the three course meals and coffee mornings over the years and it's a great opportunity for fellowship and also to view the wonderful presentations of the children's joy in receiving their gifts!

Every year thousands of people carefully prepare the shoebox gifts for children in need around the world. **Many of these boys and girls have never received a gift before.** Some live in war zones, poverty-stricken communities or places where people have never heard the Gospel. This ministry is '**More than just a shoebox**'.

The National Collection Week is from 9th – 16th November so, to quote Samaritan's Purse, its '**time to start packing!**'

Any completed boxes can be given to Sandra (or myself if easier) during the collection week.

Individual items are welcome anytime beforehand. Particularly needed are toothbrushes, flannels, sponges and small cuddly toys (new, thank you, for custom regulations),

Flatpacks are available at £5.00, which includes transportation costs.

Leaflets are available at church with further details to help in assembling a box, or alternatively you can go online to www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child for full details and more.

Sandra's fundraising events are to cover transport costs, as well as towards assembling further boxes and any monies would be gratefully received towards this.

Another way of supporting this wonderful ministry is to fund a completed box online at

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online. Our 'The Link' editor can give more information, having done this over several years! (*It's so much easier!* – editor).

Please ask if you would like to know more and, in the meantime, a **huge** thank you in anticipation!

Blessings and love in Jesus, to whom these dear children are very special.

Jane H

OCC shoebox fundraisers

@45 Alfred Road, Lake

3 course Evening meals £15.00 Saturday 10th Oct. 7pm
Monday 12th Oct 7pm

(Booking required for meals 07835486128)

Coffee mornings Friday 9th Oct 10.30am
Tuesday 13th Oct 10.30am

Including presentations of delivery and children receiving boxes.



If you cant make the dates but want to give or be involved, please speak to Sandra

Source: Samaritan's Purse

What is the Arise Africa campaign?

Why is the Arise Africa campaign needed, what are its aims and how can you help persecuted Christians in sub-Saharan Africa?

Why is the *Arise Africa* campaign needed?

Millions of Christians face violent persecution for their faith in sub-Saharan Africa. According to Open Doors World Watch List research, over 90% of Christians killed for their faith last year were in sub-Saharan Africa. This rising violence is being driven largely by Islamist extremists taking advantage of political instability in the region.

The number of people affected and the area affected are both increasing rapidly. The region is facing a crisis, with thousands killed and millions forced to flee their homes. Houses are burned down and possessions are looted or destroyed. Huge numbers of people have lost their livelihoods. Most of the people who've been displaced are living in camps for internally displaced people (IDPs) either in their own country or in neighbouring countries. Many have lost their means of livelihood too, as Islamist militants – particularly in Nigeria – take their land.

And yet the world has not noticed.

“Millions of Christians are displaced, here in Nigeria,” says Pastor Barnabas, who supports believers in an IDP camp in northern Nigeria, having been forced to flee after Islamist militants killed his brother and sister-in-law and badly injured him. “Millions of Christians are displaced in Africa. The news doesn't care about it, politicians don't talk about it, governments don't talk about it, global politics don't talk about it. Nobody talks about it.”

In response, the African church is calling for their brothers and sisters around the world to help stop the violence and start the healing by joining them in the *Arise Africa* campaign. It aims to see that the global community acknowledges and acts against extreme violence and supports the church to persevere – and to be resilient, resourceful and influential.

How many Christians are persecuted in sub-Saharan Africa?

According to Open Doors research, more than 90% of the Christians who were killed for their faith last year were in sub-Saharan Africa. In Nigeria alone, 3,490 Christians were killed because of their faith. That means that every day, on average, 12 Christians in sub-Saharan Africa are killed for following Jesus.

In one night, 31 Christians were killed in Pastor Michée's village in Burkina Faso. Among them was his father, Filibert. "My father was courageous. I have never seen anyone as courageous," he shares. "He was the second person to convert to Christianity in the village. He was deeply engaged in his faith. He loved his wife and us, his children."

The attack targeted Christians in the community. "The objective was to destroy the future of the village," says Pastor Michée. "They destroyed all our houses. Our possessions and animals were stolen. We had nothing left. The plan was to discourage the Christians in their belief."

The *Arise Africa* campaign aims to ensure people are talking about this crisis – and responding.

Deborah, Michée and Nathalie hold pictures of their loved ones who were killed in an attack – Abel, Filibert and Thomas

Are Christians targeted because of their faith?

It's not possible to say that all violence against Christians is because of their faith, or that all the millions of displaced Christians were forced out for their faith, but there is strong evidence that very many of them *have* been specifically targeted for following Jesus.

"When the terrorists come to churches and find Christians, they tell them that Christianity's time is over, and they should turn to the Islamist religion," says Pastor Soré in Burkina Faso. He and his family had to flee Islamist militants, and now live in two tents in an isolated area with other vulnerable members from their community. "They warn Christians to stop conducting services. After warning, when they come back later and find you in the church, they kill you."

Pastor Soré remains confident in Jesus. "I do believe that we are displaced, but Jesus is not and will never be displaced from our lives,"

he says. “He is always with us.”

How else are Christians affected in sub-Saharan Africa?

Killings and displacement are not the other forms of persecution impacting believers in sub-Saharan Africa. For instance, Jemal* in Ethiopia lost everything when Islamist radicals attacked his village. “In just one hour, they destroyed everything,” he says. “In a single day, they turned everything to ash.” This came on top of months of economic exclusion, often used as a weapon to marginalise and impoverish Christians in parts of sub-Saharan Africa – extreme Muslim clerics warned Muslims not to do business with believers, or even talk to them.

In the attack, at least 215 Christian homes were destroyed. Hundreds more, including Jemal, lost their means of livelihood. He and his family were forced from their homes – but they have stayed in the region. Open Doors partners have helped him with new machinery and materials to restart his businesses.

Jemal and his family lost their home and business in an Islamist extremist attack

Which countries are affected?

Sub-Saharan Africa includes all African countries below North Africa, though Open Doors focuses its support on sub-Saharan African countries reporting ‘high’, ‘very high’ or ‘extreme’ levels of persecution in the World Watch List (per the World Watch List methodology) – that is, Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, Nigeria, Mali, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Niger, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Mozambique, Comoros, Cameroon, Chad, Kenya, Tanzania, Djibouti, Burundi, Rwanda, Togo, Guinea, Angola, Uganda, the Ivory Coast, Gambia, South Sudan, Equatorial Guinea, Sierra Leone and Guinea Bissau.

This is a significant increase from ten years ago – violent persecution has risen sharply, and the landscape of religious persecution has changed drastically.

What are the aims of the *Arise Africa* campaign?

The Link – October 2026

Arise Africa is a global campaign aiming to raise awareness, financial support, advocacy and prayer for Christians facing violent persecution in sub-Saharan Africa. The campaign does that by raising money for the work of local Open Doors partners, joining in prayer across the world, encouraging media to report on violence against Christians and launching the *Arise Africa* petition.

What can I do?

Pray: You can join in a [month of prayer](http://www.opendoorsuk.org/news/latest-news/arise-africa-month-of-prayer/), see www.opendoorsuk.org/news/latest-news/arise-africa-month-of-prayer/ for the persecuted church in sub-Saharan Africa

Sign: You can sign the global [Arise Africa petition](http://www.opendoorsuk.org/act/arise-africa/africa-petition/) at www.opendoorsuk.org/act/arise-africa/africa-petition/ and share it with friends and family to make sure people are talking about this crisis and the 12 Christians killed every day, on average. Our global aim is to reach a million signatures – you can help that happen.

How are local Open Doors partners helping Christians?

Open Doors local partners are starting the healing through emergency relief (food, clothing, hygiene products and medical care), emergency shelter for displaced Christians, training for church leaders to equip them to disciple believers, and trauma care and livelihood skills training to support long-term self-sufficiency. They also encourage displaced believers and show them that they're not alone.

“The ministry first helped me with prayer that really comforted me,” says Pastor Soré. “In addition to the prayer support, the ministry helped me with seeds and fertilisers. It helped me to grow crops and feed my family members. They also helped us with food, including rice and oil. We wholeheartedly praise God for such blessings and thank the ministry.”

Thank you for helping to stop the violence and start the healing.

**Name changed for security reasons*

Source: [Open Doors](http://www.opendoors.org)

FOCUS

**on our Christian Brothers and Sisters being
persecuted for their faith**

Pastor sentenced to 7.5 years in Vietnam prison

8 September 2026

Pastor B’Kun has been condemned to seven and a half years in prison followed by four years of probation after his trial in August, for accusations of ‘undermining the national unity policy’, exacerbating fears and concerns for the future of religious freedom amongst believers in the area.

B’Kun is a leader of a small, unregistered house church and has come under government fire in recent years for organising gatherings of tribal believers. In October 2025, he was arrested for allegedly speaking out against the government and promoting religious freedom, having been publicly denounced by authorities.

At the time, B’Kun gave the bold statement: “My church members and I just want the freedom to worship God. We don’t want to get involved in what the local authorities say. Maybe we’ve learned things related to human rights, and the officials don’t like that. They want to merge our church with the biggest denomination so they can monitor us easily. But our vision and mission are different.”

In the months that B’Kun waited for his trial, other members of his community were arrested for their faith – and some have even been beaten to death. Pastor Nhan*, a local partner of Open Doors, shares: “During Pastor B’Khun’s detention, we didn’t receive any information about him and the penalty he might face. We could only pray for him and his family.”

At last, the trial took place last month – and resulted in a hefty prison sentence.

Prayers for justice

The Link – October 2026

Pastor B’Kun’s sentencing is amplifying the concerns of the Christian community in Vietnam, especially as it concerns the religious activities and freedoms of ethnic minority believers in the country’s Central Highlands. Many have denounced the government’s actions and hold to the belief that such serious allegations should be supported by clear evidence.

Believers also question what the case could mean for the daily life of Christians in the region. If the distinction between religious practice and threats to national security is not clearly defined in the eyes of the Vietnamese government, ethnic or religious minority communities are increasingly vulnerable to injustice.

“In response to this situation, most house churches have encouraged believers to continue praying in a spirit of peace, love and trust in God,” Pastor Nhan affirms. “We pray that truth, justice and fairness will prevail in all matters.”

**Name changed for security reasons*

Please pray

- That the Lord would grant Pastor B’Kun and his family peace, strength and comfort during this difficult season, and for the health and safety of the pastor in prison
- For God’s protection over unregistered house churches in Vietnam – pray that God would strengthen believers to remain united, loving and steadfast in their faith in every circumstance
- That the authorities will act with justice and discernment regarding religious freedom in Vietnam.

For more news on our persecuted brothers and sisters please visit the Open Doors website:

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/news/latest-news/>

Source: [Open Doors](#) - used by permission

Shanklin United Reformed Church

In the High Street - at the heart of the town



On a dark evening, why not try...

A Light Alternative



16:00 - 19:00

Saturday 31st October

Open House

Free fun for all ages in a warm safe space - just drop in at any time for:

Games

Crafts

Snacks

Drinks

Chat

**No Halloween gear please
- under 18s must be accompanied by a
responsible adult**

Christmas Gift Box Appeal

Can you help a person in care home who would not otherwise receive a Christmas Gift.

Each year Embracing Age send Christmas Gifts to residents in care homes who otherwise would not receive a gift. In 2025 we gave out over 300 gift bags, Could you please help with any of the following:

- *Toiletries, especially shower gel and fragrant talc*
- *Toiletry bags*
- *Bed socks or normal socks*
- *Small packets of tissues*
- *Puzzle books*
- *Small teddy bears*
- *Soft hairbrushes*
- *Arts & crafts*

Or make a donation at carehomefriends.org.uk/giftbox

If anyone can help in any way, there will be donation boxes at Tesco's Ryde, Boots Newport and Regent Beauty Shanklin.

They can also be given to myself, Yvonne, (or Christopher) at Church or collected if needed.

We will be putting the gift bags together at the beginning of December so please could we have any donations by 30th November.

Thank you for your help, Yvonne S.

For more information contact: email yvonne@embracingage.org.uk or 07419 338066.



Shanklin Town Community & Youth Brass Bands



ISLE of WIGHT
Est. 1993

Charity Concert for Embracing Age



EMBRACING AGE
Later life in all its fullness

30th October 2026 at 19:30

Shanklin United Reformed Church
High Street, Shanklin PO37 6LA

Free Admission

Retiring Collection in aid of Embracing Age

***Come and learn about us and what we do, and
help support our Christmas Gift Box Appeal***

www.embracingage.org

Registered charity number 1160400

Can you help?

Would you have an hour a week to spare to visit a person in a care home?

Research shows that care home residents are twice as likely to feel severely lonely as older people living at home.

Embracing Age is a Christian charity working towards a world where older people are valued, connected and full of hope, by combatting loneliness, mobilising volunteers, equipping churches and speaking out.

Inspired by our Christian ethos, we serve older people regardless of background, ethnicity or beliefs, upholding dignity, compassion and respect for all.

We are looking for more volunteers both male and female (over the age of 16) to befriend residents, we ask for an hour a week.

Any volunteer would need to complete an application form, we take up 2 references, complete a DBS, which is renewed every 3 years. Training is given for each person to include dementia, communication, safeguarding and confidentiality.

You would also get support from the Isle of Wight coordinator. We have regular meet ups and discuss any problems and tips with each other.

Residents have said what a difference this makes to them to have a person sit with them and talk, play games, knit, read to them. The care home staff say what a difference they see in a person, it lifts their mood and increases communication.

You can be an individual befriender or work in pairs and have a small group to talk to. Full support is given, you will have a named person within the care home who will support visits, we try to keep all volunteers close to where they live unless you are happy to travel. I have care home residents waiting for a befriender.

If you would like to know more or would like to donate to the work of Embracing Age, then please speak to me, Yvonne Sparks (email yvonne@embracingage.org.uk)



Dates For Your Diary

Day	Date	Time	Details
Fri	2 nd Oct	18:30	Harvest Chip Supper
Sun	4 th Oct	10:30	Guest preacher – Dave Cornes
Fri	9 th Oct	18:00	Elders' Meeting
Sat	17 th Oct	15:30	Messy Church – Harvest
Fri-Sat	23 rd - 24 th Oct		Sabbath of Prayer (<i>see page 5</i>)
Sun	25 th Oct	10:30	Clocks go back Encounter Café Service
Fri	30 th Oct	19:30	Shanklin Community/Youth Brass Bands Charity Concert for Embracing Age <i>See page 43</i>
Sat	31 st Oct	16:00	Light Alternative
Thu	26 th Nov	19:30	Church Meeting
Sun	29 th Nov	10:30	Encounter café service

Our Bookshop's opening hours for October:

Monday: 10:00 – 12:30

2nd Tuesday: 10:00 – 13:00

Last Tuesday: 10:30 – 13:30

Wednesday: 10:00 – 13:00

Thursday: 10:30 – 13:00



Messy Harvest

Saturday
17th October
15:30 - 17:30

Free fun for all the family

- no unaccompanied children please

Come & enjoy a Harvest Messy Church experience at Shanklin URC - a fun way of learning for all ages.

There will be several craft activities to choose from related to the Harvest theme, followed by a short celebration with songs, prayers – and some delicious food.

Come as a family; bring the grandchildren along – any combination is fine! Enjoy it together.

For more information, please speak to Yvonne Sparks or Janet Harley, and please let Yvonne know if you can help in any way – even with the clearing up afterwards!

Connection Quiz Answers

1. **Florence**
2. **Bob Dylan**
3. **Rustee Lee**
4. **Brian Cant**
5. **Father Dougal**
6. **Connection:** they are all characters from The Magic Roundabout. Florence, Dylan (the rabbit), (Mr) Rusty, Brian (the snail) and Dougal (the dog).
7. This issue's cover photo is from the entrance to the River La Morelle, Honfleur, Normandie, France (photo © C P Sparks).



Pray for the Prisons on the Island

On the **third Friday of each month** at Carisbrooke Priory.

Forthcoming dates: 16th October and 20th November.

Will meet in the café at the priory from 10:00 and the prayer meeting proper will be from 10:30 for an hour.

So far, the group has stayed in the café to pray but may well be in the chapel instead.

All welcome.

IoW Autumn Walking Festival



Discover the truth of the Island's motto: 'All this beauty is of God'. Go to the Isle of Wight Walking Festival website isleofwightwalkingfestival.co.uk for a list of all the walks.

The gentlest, suitable for those with limited mobility, is run by Julie. The Lost Crypt Walk is a history stroll around Ryde, costing £5 per person, with every penny going to Aspire Ryde. Tuesday October 6th at 15:00, Wednesday 7th at 17:30, Friday 9th at 15:00 and Saturday 10th at 10:00. Prebooking essential.

The Puzzle Pages

Sudoku

A numerical
placement
puzzle!

To solve it you need to fill
the grid so that every
column, every row and
every 3 x 3 box contains
the digits 1 to 9.

An easy one this
month.

Enjoy!

					3	7	2	
		8						3
			4	6				
2					1		5	8
	3		5		4		1	
9	1		2					7
				9	2			
5						3		
	4	3	7					

1		2		3		4		5		6			7
8				9						10	11		
12						13							
				14						15			
		16											
						17	18			19			20
	21				22								
23				24				25					
26													
27										28			

Last month's Sudoku - how did you do?

3	9	7	8	2	5	1	4	6
2	8	6	7	1	4	5	3	9
1	4	5	3	9	6	8	7	2
4	7	8	9	6	2	3	5	1
5	2	3	4	7	1	9	6	8
9	6	1	5	8	3	4	2	7
8	1	4	6	5	7	2	9	3
6	5	2	1	3	9	7	8	4
7	3	9	2	4	8	6	1	5

Across

- 1 European country, capital Chişinău (7)
 5 Waved by cheerleaders (3 3)
 8 Latin for King (3)
 9 Pilotless aeroplane (5)
 10 17 in Roman numerals (4)
 12 'Names' in German (5)
 13 Opposite of west (4)
 14 Used with Ctrl & Del on a computer keyboard (3)
 15 Read quickly, or make an electronic copy of a paper document (4)
 16 Used to propel a boat (3)
 17 Used to see with (3)
 19 Children's card game, popular with crocodiles perhaps (4)
 21 Attempt (3)

23 Animal kept as a pet that goes woof (3)

24 Dense mist of water droplets with visibility less than 1km (3)

25 Once every twelve months (6)

Down

1 Egg white & sugar topping (8)

2 A Benelux country (10)

3 Nothing special (8)

4 Aérospatiale helicopter, or the French word for the lark bird (8)

5 Happy satisfaction, enjoyment, or delight (8)

6 1,009 in Roman numerals, or the group 'Little -' (3)

7 'But', en français (4)

11 Avro aeroplane (a 'V bomber'), e.g. XH558 (6)

18 O Come All - Faithful (2)

19 Barely sufficient (5)

20 Who a cheque is made out to (5)

21 The way a voice sounds (4)

22 2 + 2 (4)

25 Japanese currency (3)

Can You Guess The Year?

- Prince Edward left the Royal Marines, 3 months after joining.
- Terry Waite was taken hostage in Beirut.
- Ferry 'Herald of Free Enterprise' capsized leaving Zeebrugge.
- Coventry City won the FA Cup, beating Tottenham 3-2.
- And UK No. 1s include:
 - Madonna with '*La Isla Bonita*'
 - Starship with '*Nothings Gonna Stop Us Now*'
 - The Firm with '*Star Trekkin*'
 - The Bee Gees with '*You Win Again*'
 - Ferry Aid with '*Let It Be*'

Answer next issue

This Issue's General Knowledge Questions

1. Which team won the men's FIFA World Cup in 2018?
2. Who was the English monarch after Henry I?
3. Who won the Eurovision Song Contest in 2006?
4. What is the capital of Chile?
5. What is the currency in Finland?
6. What was Ramsay McDonald's claim to fame (in 1924)?
7. In computer terms, what does FTP stand for?
8. Who composed the '*Ring Cycle*'?
9. When was Tower Bridge built?
10. Where was the 1986 British Formula One Grand Prix held?

Answers next issue

Please note that the deadline for contributions for the next magazine is:

Sunday 18th October

Contributions can be emailed anytime up to the deadline day to:

surc.thelink@btinternet.com

Unfortunately, due to a holiday at the end of the week, I cannot accept any items after this date

Last Issue's Solutions

- Guess the year: it was 1973
- Last issue's crossword ↓

N	E	T	H	E	R	L	A	N	D	S			C	I
O		O		L		O		E		A			A	
R	U	D	I	M	E	N	T	A	R	Y			E	N
W		A		B		D		T					N	O
A		Y		R	O	O		L	E	N	T			S
Y	E			I		N		Y				A		E
	V		I	D					C			N		
B	E	I	N	G			B	O	U	L	O	G	N	E
	R				E	D				I				X
S	T	A	N			A	G	I	N	C	O	U	R	T
	O		E			T				H		S		O
I	N	T	E	R	E	S	T			E	W	E	L	L

Last Issue's General Knowledge Quiz Answers

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Chelsea | 7. Random Access Memory |
| 2. Henry I | 8. Ludwig van Beethoven |
| 3. Let Me Be the One | 9. 16 th August 1819 |
| 4. Riga | 10. Stade Roland Garros, Paris |
| 5. Krone | |
| 6. Tony Blair | |

Sunday Service

<u>Morning</u>	10:30	Morning Worship in church <i>Broadcast live on YouTube</i> → Holy Communion on 1 st Sunday of each month → All Age service on last Sunday of each month
<u>Evening</u>	17:00	Alpha Course in church

Weekday Activities

Monday	09:00	Rise and Shine
	13:00	Prayer Meeting in church (see page 4)
Tuesday	09:00	Rise and Shine
	14:00	Bible Bite ministry in church (Refreshments from 13:30) <i>Broadcast live on YouTube</i>
	19:30	Prayer Meeting on Zoom (see page 4)
Wednesday	11:00	The Well (see page 25)
Friday	10:00	CatURpillars Toddler Group (<i>term time</i>)

Details of any other services/activities that we hold will be posted:

- **inside the church**
- **on our Facebook page**
- **and on our website**

Minister:



Rev Brian Harley

10 Dracaena Gardens, Shanklin PO37 7JQ

01983 862485

brianharley58@gmail.com

Day off:

Monday

Secretary:

Robin Wightman



robinwightman@aol.com

Shanklin URC is a member of the **Evangelical Alliance**

www.shanklinurc.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 1130459