

OUTLOOK

“Your Church, near you, invites you, needs you”



**NOVEMBER
2025**

£1

**ANNUAL
SUBSCRIPTION
£10.00**



See page 8 for an important announcement



ST. PETER'S IRTHLINGBOROUGH

OUTLOOK

The Parish Magazine of St. Peter's Church

Editor: Richard Howlett, 26 College Street, Irthlingborough

Email: outlook.editor@yahoo.co.uk or Tel.: 01933 650113

We seek to serve the local community and welcome suitable items for publication.

- for advertising, please contact Margaret Foster:-

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- for subscriptions & distribution, please contact Margaret Bull:-

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Sunday Worship

regular Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday services are on Facebook at:-

<https://www.facebook.com/stpetersirthlingborough>

Fr. John hosts evening prayer on Zoom and also issues a weekly newsletter via e-mail. Contact him directly for more information

See Parish Diary (page 18) for other services and events

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Other contacts:

Please see 'Who's Who' on page 34

Benefice website:

<http://www.nenecrossings.org.uk>



St. Peter's Church

Lives to spread the

GOOD NEWS of JESUS CHRIST

through

Worship, Prayer, Fellowship and Service



Fr. John writes.....



I was away on holiday in the summer when the great explosion in flag flying took place, well as a great lover of flags, as anyone who knows me will know, you would think I would be quite excited at the prospect. I have no doubt that the vast majority of folk who hung flags from lampposts and bridges, scaffolding and roundabouts did it all in good heart. But and I say, with the greatest respect and love to all, there were some folk, I have spoken to, who found the experience intimidating and

frightening. Indeed I know of cases where our flags have been “weaponised” against certain individuals. Intellectually it made me think, what have we done, that a symbol that is meant to visually represent our togetherness and unity; has been transformed, for some, into a symbol that represents almost exactly the opposite?

In preparation for Remembrance, I have been putting together the usual service book and updating the images to reflect the 80th Anniversary of VE and VJ Days. As I looked at historic images of the time, our national symbols were prevalent, and when you looked at the faces in the crowds there was a true mix of faces of different genders, races, faiths and I have no doubt sexualities all rejoicing together because of the forces of unity, tolerance and goodwill had overcome the forces that wanted to impose intolerance and forced uniformity.



I understand we are in many ways a different nation to the one of 80 years ago. For my birthday I was bought a collection of DVDs of the Ealing Comedies, which are a delight to watch, *Passport to Pimlico*; *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, the *Lavender Hill Mob*, and my all-time favourite, the *Ladykillers*. They are a glimpse into a world that, rightly or wrongly, no longer exists. We need to look to the world we live in and bring forth the virtue and joys of that previous time but also overcoming its wrongs. The men and women who fought and died 80 years ago did so to make a better world, the landslide election of 1945 seems to me to show a sign that the people wanted, neither revolution nor status quo but a recognition that things had moved on and things needed to get better, change needed to be embraced not imposed or ignored.. as the flags are paraded and names remembered let's remember the hope of the new, in a world of tolerance and respect what they truly represent.

With love and prayers

Extracts from Fr. John's recent Benefice newsletters ...

September 20th.

Plenty of time to still get down to the Christian Aid Book Sale in Irthlingborough this morning. But remember what happens at a book sale remains at a book sale.... Nobody saw me there and you definitely didn't see me buy any books, and all the books you see at the Rectory, you are sure you have seen on the book-shelves for years....if Mrs. Hall hadn't noticed them before, well that's to do with her lack on observation, not that they have been freshly bought!

For those of us who will be in Church, it's St. Matthews's Day. St. Matthew was the local Taxman in Nazareth, and you can imagine a most unlikely person to follow Jesus. First century Palestinian tax collectors were seen as both corrupt; they would be given a target of money to collect.. by any means and anything above that target was theirs to keep.. And as enemy collaborators, (Rome was an occupying power), so for most folk the only real encounter with 'government' would be through these folk, taking money from them! Who knows quite what discontent or loneliness was going through St. Matthew's mind that day, but his encounter with Jesus changed everything.

September 27th.

Bright and early this morning as Mrs. Hall and I are off to watch my children run (I use the term in its broadest sense) in the Sheffield 10k 'Fun Run'. Anzhalika and I's plan is, of course, to watch them set off at the start line, cheer them on, and then go and find breakfast somewhere before returning a bit later to watch them cross the finish line! If only all my school cross-country races were as easy! (I am having a case of PTSD just thinking back on that time!).

Lots going on this week, Fr. Josh returns to work this week, no doubt full of tales of woe involving sleepless nights and exploding nappies.... Well that will keep Revd. Mich and I amused over the coming days and then Bishop Debbie will be joining us on Sunday 5th. October to lead our Harvest Festival Service. Been quite a while since Irthlingborough hosted our diocesan bishop, so I had better remind Revd. Mich to polish her shoes. During Harvest Festival we will be collecting tinned and dried food to go to the local Food Bank.

Our reading on Sunday is that famous story of the Rich Man and the Poor Man, Lazarus, in heaven and hell..., it ends with a challenge to us to listen to scripture, and a chilling prediction that folk are always willing to not let the facts get in the way of a good prejudice. A lesson that seems very relevant to today's society. Well, these trainers won't run themselves...

October 4th.

Well, tomorrow we celebrate Harvest Festival. I suspect it's safe to say that for the vast majority of us the direct connection with harvest into our lives (apart from maybe an allotment for some or veggie patch in the garden) is not maybe as directly connected in a "*hands covered in mud kind of way*". But no matter how distant it is, we are reliant on the harvest for all our food. It all has to be grown somewhere and someone somehow has harvested it at the start of the process of bringing it to our shelves, whether as fresh food, or frozen or tinned. The direct link may be lost but the consequence is very real. I think it was Einstein who said that if the bees disappear humanity has about 3 years left: i.e. no pollinators no growth, no growth no food. It's quite a shocking concept if you think about it, despite our technological advancement, we are all still so dependent on such basic things... Things so easy to take for granted. Harvest in my mind is the Thank You to the Creator God for that abundance, that is actually outside our control.

Well it's an exciting day tomorrow. Bishop Debbie will be joining us to both see Bubble Church and to lead our Harvest Communion in Irthlingborough, and a big thanks to Sharon who will play the organ for us, a rare treat! After the service we hope to plant at least some of our snow drops, I think as it stands we have somewhere around 700! Thank you for your generosity.

October 11th.

For those of you at the Little Addington Harvest Auction on Monday, just to let you know I have survived the Mystery Vegetable but I am wondering if I have mixed up my Orals with Aurals in its consumption, because I have an ear infection and have gone deaf in my left side! I know Rev .Mich will be saying, "welcome to my world", but my response will be ... "Pardon?"

So apart from a certain hearing loss overall its been a good week. It was great to see Bishop Debbie at Irthlingborough last Sunday (who left with a very favourable impression of us all). Well I guess you can fool some of the folk, some of the time. And there was a sense that the band was finally back together this week, with all the clergy managing to be all together at one place at one time, which for all sorts of reasons we haven't been able to do since early summer.

Thank you to everyone who offered gifts for harvest. I think we managed to plant getting on for 1000 snowdrops which hopefully over the coming years will grow and spread.

With love and prayers

Fr. John

Prayers for November

At this time we pray for all who are victims of war or armed conflicts around the world. We ask for a lasting and just peace between Israel and Gaza and for progress in resolving the war between Ukraine and Russia. We give thanks for all who work for peace or who provide aid in these troubled places.

As we remember the cost of war in terms of death and injury on Remembrance Sunday, we thank you for peace in our land and the security provided by our armed forces. We ask you to bless them and their leaders as they undergo rigorous training to protect us and the freedoms we enjoy.

For the Royal British Legion and the vital work they continue to carry out in support of former service personnel. We ask that they will receive an excellent response to their annual 'Poppy Appeal'.

We remember all who mourn the loss of loved ones and pray that they will receive the comfort and support they need at this difficult time.

For all who serve our community in any way, especially our local shops and businesses and their employees.

IMPORTANT NEWS

The December 2025 issue of OUTLOOK will be the last time we produce a printed version of the magazine.

With effect from the January 2026 issue, OUTLOOK will be produced as a "digital" version e-mailed to those subscribers who choose to receive it in that format.

It will be provided **free** of charge with no advertisements and I will be continuing as Editor.

We do realise that there will be some readers who are unable to receive the magazine in this way, but an anticipated increase in production costs means that to continue with a printed version will be financially unviable.

To register to receive the e-mailed OUTLOOK please send your e-mail address to the editor at outlook.editor@yahoo.co.uk - with **Digital Outlook** in the subject line.

Or to subscribe, scan the QR code:



Richard Howlett

ST. PETER'S BELLRINGERS



Alan and Margaret Bull were overwhelmed by a surprise party which took place after the ringing practice on 24th. September to celebrate 50 years of bellringing in Irthlingborough and were delighted to see so many old friends from various parts of the country, including many who used to ring with us. There was a wonderful spread of food, photos from way back and some lovely gifts, plus balloons! We were both very touched by everyone's kindness and generosity and would like to thank Jayne who we think did the bulk of organising the evening, Alison for the wonderful cake and Alan for the photos as well as everyone else involved in any way, and especially friends who travelled from afar just to be with us. We had no idea what was going on so thank you for a wonderful evening and for all the pleasure we have received down the years in ringing with such lovely people, plus some who are sadly no longer with us.

Our thanks to Josh Horne for organising our Annual Outing to Leicestershire on 27th. September, we rang at 5 towers during the day and visited some lovely villages.

The next monthly learners practice will take place on Saturday 1st. November at 10 am. and we hope a few more learners will come along. If you are interested in learning to ring or would like to give it another go please contact me or turn up on Saturday 1st. or any Wednesday.

Our regular practices on Wednesdays will now normally start from 7 pm. to give our learners extra time but this very much depends on availability of experienced ringers to support them so please check on the number below.

We are looking forward to our Annual Ringers Dinner on 8th. November more next month!

Some ringers from Gloucestershire will be visiting us on Wednesday 19th. November from 10:30 am.

Margaret Bull: Tel 01933 651360

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral at the Methodist Church

10 th . October	Brian Nightingale (Jim)	aged 79 years
15 th . October	Joy Kirk	aged 81 years



CHRISTIAN AID

A huge thank you from the Irthlingborough Christian Aid Committee to all those who donated and bought books and jigsaws at September's Book Sale for Christian Aid. As a result of everyone's support and hard work, a staggering £1245 was raised. THANK YOU.

The money we raise here in Irthlingborough means Christian Aid can continue working with local partners and communities to fight injustice, respond to humanitarian emergencies, campaign for change and help people claim the services and rights they are entitled to.

This month we have two events which are both on **Saturday 15th. November** in the **Albert Underwood Room**, St. Peter's Church. In the morning, we have our monthly **Christian Aid Coffee Morning** at **10am.** and in the evening at **7:00pm.** **Irthlingborough Christian Aid's Quiz Night.** John Farrar is once again our fun-loving Question Master. **Tickets are £7 per person and include a ploughman's supper.** Tickets are available through committee members or by contacting Alan on 01933 650369. Bring your own drinks and come and join in the fun with teams of up to 4 people.

Then looking forward to next month, everyone is invited to get in the festive mood with **Carols in the High Street Tree** along with a Christmas **Christian Aid Coffee Morning** in the **David Room, Irthlingborough Methodist Church.** This will be on **Saturday 20th. December.**

Irthlingborough Christian Aid Committee thank you for supporting our events and look forward to seeing you soon.

Ruth Moss

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST



A final total of £280 was raised for our walk in September. A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported us. We are awaiting a cheque of £140 to give towards the upkeep of St. Peter's Church building.

Alan and Margaret Bull

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Thank you to everyone who has given us clothing to sell at the **Jumble and Nearly New Sale** on **Saturday 25th October**. We are looking forward to this event together with our regular Coffee Morning.

Don't miss our **Christmas Fair on Saturday 22nd. November** from 10 am. to 1 pm. when there will be lots of exciting things to buy for Christmas and opportunities to win on the Bottle Stall, Raffle and Sweet Tombola. Do come along and have a look. Donations of prizes and goods for sale will be most welcome. **Please contact Alan on 650369 or Margaret 651360** and see poster for more details.

The **Christmas Tree Festival** will take place on **6th. and 7th. December**, at St. Peter's, forms are available now if you would like to take part, please contact us on the numbers above.

At the Fundraising Meeting on Thursday 25th. September we discussed the above events and began to start planning for 2026. On 24th. January we will be having a **Clearance Sale**, our **Summer Fair** will take place on 27th. June and **Christmas Fair** on 28th. November so please write these dates down when you get your new diary!

At our next meeting on 30th. October we will discuss some of our other ideas for next year and firm up Coffee Morning dates. Watch this space!!

Margaret Bull



Quiz Night

Saturday 15th November 2025

7.00pm

Albert Underwood Room, St Peter's Church
Church Street, Irthlingborough, NN9 5SG

Question Master John Farrar

To book your place contact Alan on 01933 650369

Tickets are £7.00 per person and include a ploughman's supper

Bring your own drinks

All proceeds to Christian Aid



More from the magazine

From 1898 St. Peter's Church Magazine was published under a new format and known as 'Church and Home for Young and Old'. In the Hist Soc Archive we have original copies of the magazine for several years up to 1911. Rector at that time was Rev'd. John (Chippy) Kinnersley-Taylor, who certainly used the publication to express his views, usually strong ones, on all manner of matters concerning life in Irthlingborough. Sadly, we have no copies from the years of the Great War, which would have given a wonderful insight of life in the town at that time.

In 1898, excessive heat in late summer guaranteed a good harvest but farmers were castigated for '...being backward in sending corn to Church at Harvest Festival to signify their thanks.' To add to the Rector's annoyance, so depleted were our congregations due to Higham Feast, that only 9 shillings and a penny, or 46p. were deposited in the collection bags!

With over 100 pupils being absent with scarlet-fever the Church Schools closed in November but re-opened after a fortnight on advice of the Sanitary Authorities who did not consider that isolating affected children would prevent the illness spreading! A somewhat backward step as the schools did not re-open after Christmas until well into January, even causing the Jumble Sale to be postponed until July. All was not lost as flannel underwear was still available for purchase at the Rectory door on Thursday afternoons or evening, 'garments' at one shilling and nightshirts at two and thruppence. The deaths of 17 month old Ernest, 2 year old Elsie and Harry aged 7 were duly recorded. Most deaths at that time were marked with the tolling of the bell for which the bereaved family was required to pay one and six, or 7½p., dissenters being excluded unless the burial service was to be conducted by the Rector.

The Rector really didn't seem to have much time for dissenters but did assure his readers that '...we in the Church of England are not bigots or intolerant' but he did go on to rant '....some call themselves churchmen but they go to chapel!' He also issued a stern rebuke to parents for the scarcity of christenings by declaring, 'It is thoroughly disgraceful. Presumably this is 'up-to-date' religion as taught by such as have erred!' There had, in fact, been 58 christenings in 1902 so one cannot begin to imagine just how many would have satisfied the Rector.

Also postponed for six weeks was the Annual Sunday School Prize-giving. Large numbers attended Sunday School and Jennifer Lee was delighted to read that Ralph Hirons, her grandfather was a recipient in Class V111 together with George Green. He was also listed amongst 'The Regulars' attending the Church Schools, but special mention was made of Kate Hearn who received an extra special prize of a silver-plated inkstand for not missing even a half-day for seven years!

In 1899 Matins was said every morning of the week in Church at 8:15am. and Evensong daily at 7:30pm. but even what the Rector described as his 'special

sermons' on Wednesday evenings attracted only a handful of parishioners. Holy Communion at 5:45am. on Ascension Day though was a different matter and was very well supported.

We are assured the Bishop was a total abstainer and he urged churches to mark the first Sunday in February as Temperance Society Sunday. The Rector sadly admitted that for a very long time Irthlingborough had not been able to do much to comply with such a request.

It is interesting to read that Mr. Dunmore's field at the top of Scarborough Street with its slopes and shady trees made an ideal venue for the Sunday School Treat in July, 1899.

The dawn of a new century and up went the cost of the magazine to tuppence, but a Children's Page, full of rather irrelevant information, was included. Did children really want to know that the Emperor of China regularly met his Cabinet Ministers at 2am., or that Sir Samuel Brown was led to invent the suspension bridge after carefully observing a spider's web, or even that the Lord High Chancellor's annual salary was ten thousand pounds?

The Church Lads Brigade in 1904 numbered some 40 youngsters, several of whom were busily saving thruppence a week to raise the 12 shillings, or 60p. required to enable them to join about two thousand others at the annual week-long camp at Prestatyn. Meanwhile, the churchwardens had met with the gentlemen of the choir in order to decide the destination for the annual choir trip. Let us hope that the 10 ladies who the magazine listed as 'assisting the choir' approved of the choice of a train trip to Clacton.

Towards the end of the first decade of the century the great ambition to provide a Church Institute was finally realised. In April, 1910 Lord Annaly laid the foundation stone, having first aroused great interest by arriving in a motor car! In true Irthlingborough tradition, there then followed a public tea and a whist drive which required 50 tables. Building of the property took just three months and the opening ceremony was performed by the Earl of Sandwich. A clock and a large, framed copy of a letter from the Queen Mother graced the walls, but a plea was made for donations towards chairs which would cost 3 shillings, or 15p. each. I rather think that one or two of those wooden, rather uncomfortable chairs still lurk in the environs of St. Peter's!

St. Peter's Church magazines certainly contain a wealth of the town's social history and Hist Soc members have only chosen a very small selection for these last two articles. In the Archive we have the complete set of OUTLOOK, but if any older magazines do turn up at any time, please do consider donating them to our collection.



St Peter's Church, Irthlingborough

Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December

**Individuals or groups who would like to decorate
a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival...**

Please contact either Alan on 01933 650369
or Margaret on 01933 651360 for an entry form

Form to be returned by 30th November latest

**The Church will be open on Saturday
6th from 10 am to 5 pm and
Sunday 7th from 1.30 pm to 5 pm**

**Admittance by programme — £1
(accompanied children free)**

Light refreshments available

Forthcoming events at the Library



LibraryPlus

Ruth's 2pm Talk

3rd November

Poppies for Remembrance

1st December

It's Panto season again!

(Oh yes it is)

LibraryPlus

Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday 29th November

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Face Painting

Handmade Gifts and Cakes

Brass Band – Live Music

Local Crafts

Festive Stalls

Refreshments
Raffle



North
Northam
Council



IRTHLINGBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

Email : administrator@irthlingboroughmethodistchurch.co.uk

Contact : 01933 653564



IRTHLINGBOROUGH
Methodist Church

Join us for Sunday Service every week from 10.30am

4th Sunday of the Month is Messy Church!

fashion

What a Night!

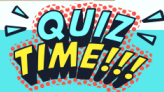
Thank you for supporting our Fashion show fundraiser! we had a fantastic turnout and guests enjoyed an evening of great style, discounted clothes, raffle, refreshments and fun. Thank you to everyone that attended and helped make this event such a success.

Your support is very much appreciated.



"Just wanted to say that I really enjoyed the Friday fashion show. Everyone was fabulous"

Guest comment



Let's get quizzical !



Our recent quiz evening was a fun filled brain challenge that was enjoyed by all! Teams battled through some tricky questions with plenty of laughter, thinking and teamwork. Congratulations to "The Fab 4" who claimed the top spot. It was a wonderful night of fellowship, fun and excellent food! A big Thank you to Lena our quizmaster for an evening of entertaining questions and to everyone who helped and came to make the night a success.

October reminds us that change can be beautiful. As the leaves fall and the harvest gathered, God invites us to slow down, give thanks and trust his timing. "The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us" Psalm 67:6

Upcoming Events

Saturday 1st November:

Coffee Morning 10 am - 12 noon

Sunday 2nd November:

Celebration Service from 10.30am

Followed by a shared lunch



"All are welcome, for His kingdom has room for all"

Everyone Welcome!

Everyone Welcome!

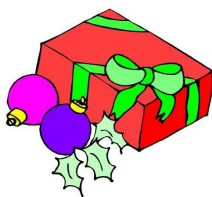
St Peter's Church, Irthlingborough

CHRISTMAS FAIR

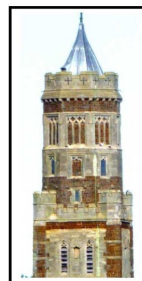
Saturday 22nd November

10 am to 1 pm

**Christmas Stall, Candles, Gifts, Cards,
Bottle Stall, Crafts, Toys,
Home-made Cakes & Preserves
Books, Bric a Brac, CDs & DVDs
Raffle, Tombola,
and much more...**



Refreshments



Donations of goods & prizes much appreciated.

**Please contact: Margaret 651360 or Alan 650369
or bring to Church Friday 21st 2 pm - 4 pm
or Saturday from 9am**



PARISH DIARY

<u>Sunday 2nd.</u>	<u>All Saints</u>	
	8.00 am.	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30 am.	Bubble Church
***	10.30 am.	Parish Communion
Wednesday 5 th .	4.30 pm.	Ministry Team meeting - A.U.Room
Thursday 6 th .	*** 9.30 am.	Holy Communion
Saturday 8 th .	4.00 pm.	I-Grow Festival of Remembrance
<u>Sunday 9th.</u>	<u>The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity</u>	
	8.00 am.	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30 am.	Bubble Church
***	10.30 am.	Parish Communion
Wednesday 12 th .	2.00 pm.	Craft Group - A.U.Room
Thursday 13 th .	*** 9.30 am.	Holy Communion
	2.00 pm.	Grave Talk - A.U.Room
Saturday 15 th .	10.00 am.	Christian Aid Coffee Morning - see page 19
<u>Sunday 16th.</u>	<u>The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity</u>	
	8.00 am.	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30 am.	Bubble Church
***	10.30 am.	Parish Communion
Monday 17 th .	7.00 pm.	PCC meeting - A.U.Room
Tuesday 18 th .	2.00 pm.	Mothers' Union - A.U.Room
Thursday 20 th .	*** 9.30 am.	Holy Communion
Saturday 22 nd .	10.00 am.	St. Peter's Christmas Fair - see page 17
<u>Sunday 23rd.</u>	<u>Christ the King</u>	
	8.00 am.	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30 am.	Bubble Church
***	10.30 am.	Parish Communion

Wednesday 26th. 2.00 pm. Craft Group - A.U.Room

Thursday 27th. *** 9.30 am. Holy Communion

Sunday 30th. Advent Sunday
 8.00 am. Holy Communion (BCP)
 9.30 am. Bubble Church
 *** 10.30 am. Parish Communion

December

Sunday 2nd. The Second Sunday of Advent
 8.00 am. Holy Communion (BCP)
 9.30 am. Bubble Church
 *** 10.30 am. Parish Communion

*** The service webcasts from St. Peter's can be found at:-
<https://www.facebook.com/stpetersirthingborough>

DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Daytime Bible Study group over the years, unfortunately there are not currently enough people to sustain the group. No doubt there will be opportunities in the future, either on a short or longer term basis, to explore our faith with other people through the wisdom and depth of this most wonderful book.

Margaret



Saturday 15th November 2025

10.00am

**Albert Underwood Room,
 St Peter's Church,
 Church Street, Irthingborough, NN9 5SG**

All proceeds to Christian Aid



The Mayor's Diary

Councillor Caroline Cross

17 September

I was touched to be invited to the Band Club to join with the Wednesday bingo regulars in raising a glass to Joan on the occasion of her 100th Birthday. I told her that it was a huge honour for me to be in the same room as her and that she could surely teach a mere mayor a thing or two.



A floral gift was presented and then it was

on with the bingo. Marie-Ann informed me that she'd been doing the calling for 22 years. Drinks were quaffed, cakes were consumed and the £84 for the final full house was won. Many congratulations to Joan – Artlenock centenarian and an example to us all.

18 September

Councillor Syed Shah was my consort for the Mayor of Raunds' Steak Night at The World Upside Down pub. Following the pre meal mingling, Syed and I found ourselves seated alongside Rushden's Deputy Mayor, Councillor Janet Pinnock, and *her* deputy, Councillor Barbara Jenny, who, as always, were excellent company. Councillor Richard Levell, Mayor of Raunds, spoke about his chosen charity, Race Against Dementia, between courses. We didn't win any of the raffle prizes, but a thoroughly good night was had. Thank you, Syed, for representing Irthlingborough with me and for your hands-on commitment to our council.

19 September

Consort, Bernard Lines, and Daphne, accompanied me to the Fashion Show at Irthlingborough Methodist Church. We were duly wowed by all the outfits that were modelled by brave volunteers. It must be very nerve-racking indeed to be tasked with parading up and down a catwalk, however short, with all eyes upon you. Everyone in attendance clearly relished looking through the rails of discounted clothes after the show. Yet another successful event delivered by hardworking members of our church community for the enjoyment of the townsfolk.

20 September

From Irthlingborough Methodist Church to St. Peter's where jigsaws and books flew off the pews for Christian Aid. I saw fit to purchase an 81-page booklet entitled 'Index Record for Industrial Sites: Recording the Industrial Heritage'. This will make for light reading when I have a few minutes to spare. I didn't buy a jigsaw because I don't have any clear surfaces in my abode. St. Peter's Book &

Jigsaw Sale is a hugely popular event. I could barely see the tops of some people's heads as they left the church. Roll on the next one.

27 September

My consort for the Northamptonshire County Scouts AGM at the Sir John Lowther Centre in Kettering was Irthlingborough Scout, Emily Tew. Her mother, Sara (my cousin), accompanied us. The Lord-Lieutenant, High Sheriff and mayors aplenty were also present. Together we were given a tour of the grounds while observing many youth groups engaging in assorted activities. Under expert guidance, all guests had a go at tomahawk hurling and shooting. Once indoors, we paid close attention to the AGM business. Speeches were made, and awards and bouquets were presented to long-serving leaders and others. It has been extremely humbling to be in the same space as such dedicated individuals at the many events that I've been honoured to be invited to.

Later that evening, I was pleased to attend Steve Dimmer's Ronnie Barker talk at the library. Many classic moments from The Two Ronnies were shown including, of course, the still hilarious (and very clever) Four Candles sketch. Along with excerpts from Mr. Barker's other TV and film roles, Steve regaled the audience with numerous anecdotes and snippets. Who knew that said comic actor was born in Bedford?

28 September

I was delighted that Kate James agreed to be my consort for the Mayor of Kettering's 'Tea, Talk, Train' event at Wicksteed Park. After dining on cake, Oliver Wicksteed, great grandson of Charles, treated us to a fascinating talk about the history of this much-loved park. Charles was a man ahead of his time, for he knew that outdoor play in a safe and communal area was the way to go. Kate and I were thrilled when Wicksteed employee, Ruth, climbed into our carriage for the train ride, for she was able to bring Oliver's words to life; pointing out landmarks and areas of interest as we chuffed around the park. What a lovely afternoon. Thank you, Kate, former councillor of this parish, for accompanying me, and for all the joy that you bring to Irthlingborough folk with your kind and thoughtful deeds.

2 October

My consort for the Mayor of Newport Pagnell's Music Night was Councillor Ethan Hopkinson; he who has proved to be a good support to me since May. What a spectacular event, filled with humour from The Mayor, Councillor Paul Day, and unbelievable talent from the assorted choirs. The cast of Grease from Ousedale School had me shaking my head in wonder. One was quite lost for words as their voices filled St. Peter and St. Paul's Parish Church. A dog was also introduced to the audience, since Councillor Day's chosen good cause is Medical Detection Dogs. Said canines are trained to detect even the tiniest smells associated with

diseases such as cancer. Thank you, Ethan, for being my guest on this occasion, and for all the positives that you bring to Irthlingborough Town Council.

4 October

I popped down to our market first thing and, together with our loyal stallholders, asked Irthlingborough residents for their support. I just about managed to hold onto the placard in the wind.

The next market will be held on **Saturday 1 November**. Come on down!

Bernard and Daphne Lines accompanied me to the Mayor of Daventry's Civic Service at The Holy Cross Church. The proceedings began with a look round Daventry Museum where we were suitably enthralled by their current exhibition, 'Daventry Calling The World'. Well worth a visit. Councillor Katie Thurston's service was quite different to all the others I have attended in that it was a very child-friendly affair. There is no set format for a civic service, but most are strong on community and service. Afterwards, we adjourned to the nearby Working Men's Club for refreshments. The Mayor of Daventry is raising funds for EnFold, an Autism support service, during her term of office.

The Mayor of Irthlingborough's Civic Service will take place on **Sunday 19 April at 3pm**. All will be welcome.

5 October

Consort, Bernard, joined me at St. Mary's Church after a procession from Hall Park, for The Mayor of Rushden's Civic Service. Said service was very different to the one I'd attended the day before. I enjoyed the contrast. Afterwards, a buffet was served back at Rushden Hall. Councillor Gill Mercer, Mayor of Rushden, is raising funds for Rush2theDen and Rushden & District Community Charity during her civic year.

9 October

Cyndy Phillips was my consort for the Chair of West Northamptonshire Council's Civic Service at All Saints' Church in Northampton at which the High Sheriff was in attendance. We processed from The Guildhall to the church after mingling with guests in The Great Hall. It was good to see Morcea Walker and our own Deputy Lieutenant, Garry Liburd, at this event. The service was quite elaborate and featured many psalms as well as *The Nunc Dimittis* and *Panis Angelicus*, all sung by a magnificent choir. Following the service, we walked to Northampton Museum where a string quartet played as we partook of refreshments.

Councillor Alison Eastwood, Chair of West Northamptonshire Council, informed us about her good causes: Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust, and Maggie's (a local cancer charity). Thank you, Cyndy Phillips MBE, for accompanying me. Thanks for being a good pal, for your kindness, for keeping me on my toes regarding parking issues in the town and for reminding me when the Scout Tote subscription is due.

11 October

I was so pleased to welcome the Mayors of Higham Ferrers, Rushden, Towcester and Huntingdon, the Deputy Mayors of Corby and Wellingborough, and consorts, to this town, for my first mayoral event. I met the dignitaries in the car park and we processed down the High St. to the Community Garden where Jamie gave an overview and visitors marvelled at the tomatoes, flowers, sheds and all. Next stop was the Wildlife Garden where I spoke about this ever-evolving plot. The Coronation Memorial Garden was also appreciated. The final leg of the Nature Trail consisted of a stroll down the Lakes & Meadows, ably led by Jo, Pete and Trevor. All were enthralled by what they saw and heard. Thence to St. Peter's for tea, cake, raffle and a speech. The Mayor of Towcester was so interested in our church that I felt compelled to ask Alan Mayes to treat us to a talk on its history. He gladly obliged. To top it all, he then opened up the Monk's Kitchen for my guests to explore. What a bonus. I am indebted to Alan, Lani, Maureen, Anzhalika, Jo, Pete, Trevor and Jamie for their support on the day. Thanks to everyone else too, human and otherwise, who participated in the event. Together, we gave a good account of our unique church, green community projects and beautiful Lakes & Meadows.

Later that day, Consort Meg, Ruth Moss, Michael and I formed a team and went along to the Quiz Evening at the Methodist Church. We did very well on the London Underground round, but came 4th overall. However, the jacket potato supper was a winner!

Thanks to Lena, cooks and all. Must stop now or Richard will tell me off.





Irthlingborough Scout Group

**** This month** our young members have been busy developing their map reading skills, including making their own maps of the local area, learning first aid, cooking on camp stoves and exploring our local wildlife and we celebrate a major award!

****Beavers** have been talking about and planning for the forthcoming Group Camp in November. For many young members this will be their first time camping and being away overnight from parents/family, a big step in growing their self-confidence!!

****Cubs** have been out & about down the Greenway, bug hunting and tracking. The cubs have also been learning and practicing First Aid skills, in order to achieve their level 2 First Aid badge.



****Scouts** have been outside practicing expedition cooking using tangria back-pack stoves.

**** Huge Congratulations to Katie Ward**, one of 1st Irthlingborough's young adult volunteers on achieving her '**GOLD**' *Duke of Edinburgh Award*! In recognition, Katie will be attending a reception at Buckingham Palace in May 2026 to celebrate with other Gold Award recipients.



**** Remember Remember Saturday 8th November!!** - the **57th Annual Rushden Firework Display** at Hall Park, the oldest & best firework display in the area. Tickets are available from Karen on 07415 374587 or Cyndy at 35 High Street, Irthlingborough. (Advance tickets are cheaper than on the gate)

**** Remembrance Sunday** - 9th November. The group will once again be providing refreshments on Parsons Green, after the service, in support of our local Royal British Legion.

**** For further details or to join our group**, please email: info@irthlingboroughscouts.co.uk



News from I-Grow Irthlingborough Events



Bingo Nights – Where Community, Cake and Cheer Come Together!

Our **September Bingo Night** on **Saturday 27th** was another wonderful evening filled with laughter, friendly competition, and that unmistakable sense of community that makes our events so special. The room was buzzing from start to finish, with regulars and newcomers alike joining in the fun.

As always, there was no shortage of cakes, endless cups of tea, and plenty of banter as the numbers were called. Over **£200 in cash and prizes** was won throughout the evening, including our ever-popular free giveaway hamper and the much-loved fruit hamper donated by **D. Summers & Son**.



The **Snowball** proved elusive once again, so it rolls over to our next session—meaning there's an even bigger **bonus prize** of £40 up for grabs next time! Our next Bingo will be held on **Saturday 25th October** at **Crow Hill Community Centre**, with eyes down at **7:30 pm. sharp**.

Tickets remain just **£2**, which includes your refreshments and **£5** for the bingo book, as always lifts are available if needed. If you've never joined us before, it's the perfect evening for a giggle, a slice of cake, and maybe even a win! Once again, we are very grateful to **Morrisons** for their ongoing support for our community events



Tap, Play and Give – We're Going Contactless!

Big news for all our bingo lovers and community supporters – **I-Grow has gone modern!** We're now fully equipped with a **card machine**, which means you can **pay for your bingo tickets, event entries, and even make donations with a quick tap**. No more rummaging through your purse for change or apologising for only having a fiver – your debit card (or even your phone!) now does the job.

It's quick, easy and—let's be honest—dangerously convenient for anyone feeling extra lucky or extra generous! ☺ Whether you're paying for your bingo books, snapping up tickets for an upcoming event, or simply topping up our community fund, every tap helps keep our town's events free and full of fun.



Festival of Remembrance – Honouring the Past, Supporting the Present

On **Saturday 8th November**, from **4–6 pm.**, we invite you to join us at **St. Peter's Church** for a truly special **Festival of Remembrance**.

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This uplifting and reflective evening is an opportunity for our community to come together and pay tribute to our soldiers—past and present—through music, words, and performance. We're delighted to once again welcome the **Thrapston Town Band**, the beautiful voice of **Tracey Barker**, and there will also be much loved contributions from our local **Infant and Junior Schools** too.

It's always a moving and memorable event, offering a peaceful space to pause and reflect before the main Remembrance Service on Sunday morning.

Tickets are available now from **Bywater Herring Estate Agents** or any **I-Grow team member**, priced at **£5**, which includes refreshments. All proceeds go towards supporting community events and ensuring we can continue to mark these important occasions in a meaningful way.



Christmas Fest – The Heart of Our Town's Festive Season

The most magical day in Irthlingborough's calendar is almost here! Our **Christmas Fest** will take place on **Saturday 6th. December**, from **12 noon to 6 pm.**, when the High Street will be closed to traffic and transformed into a twinkling winter wonderland.

Expect an afternoon packed with festive stalls, delicious street food, music, and entertainment for the whole family. The famous **Granny Turismo** shopping-trolley dance team will be joining us this year, bringing their unique brand of festive fun and laughter to the streets!

What makes our Christmas Fest truly special is that, thanks to the fundraising we do all year, **every child can enjoy free unlimited fairground rides and a free visit to Santa's Grotto**—complete with a gift from Santa himself.

The event will be officially opened by the **Mayor of Irthlingborough**, followed by performances from local and professional entertainers, and of course, our **Christmas Light Switch-On** to end the day in sparkling style.

We're also thrilled to welcome a growing number of local businesses who've stepped forward to sponsor this year's event—thank you to each and every one of them! But with free rides and gifts for every child, there's still plenty of room for more help, so if your business would like to get involved, please do get in touch.



Santa Round Town – Four Magical Nights of Festive Cheer

As if Christmas Fest wasn't enough, Santa and his merry helpers will be back the following week, spreading joy around Irthlingborough with **Santa Round Town**. He'll be out on his sleigh on **Monday 8th.**, **Tuesday 9th.**, **Wednesday 10th.** and **Thursday 11th. December**, visiting streets across the town to wave, hand out sweets and stop for photos, and bring smiles to children of all ages.



This year, we're giving local residents and businesses a chance to become part of the magic by **sponsoring a bauble on Santa's Sleigh**. For just **£50**, you can have your business name—or the name of a loved one—**lit up in lights on the sleigh** as it travels through town. It's a beautiful way to support I-Grow's work while spreading a little festive sparkle for everyone to see.

Santa Round Town is always one of our favourite parts of the year—a chance to see the delight on children's faces as the sleigh bells jingle and the lights twinkle through the streets. Keep an ear out for the music and make sure to give Santa a wave when he passes by!



Aerial Stilettos – Glitter, Glamour and Great Fundraising!

Our **I-Grow team** recently had the pleasure of running the **non-alcoholic bar** at the **Aerial Stilettos' "As Seen on the Silver Screen"** burlesque show, held at Manor School Sports Centre in Raunds.

It was an unforgettable evening of stunning performances from incredibly talented local people, and our team had a wonderful time serving refreshments, chatting with guests, and soaking up the atmosphere.

We're delighted to share that, with the help of **Morrisons**, who kindly donated a selection of drinks and snacks, we raised **£173.98** on the night! A huge thank you to everyone who supported us, and to the Aerial Stilettos team for inviting us to be part of such a fabulous event.



A Final Word of Thanks and Community Spirit

We're so grateful to everyone who continues to support **I-Grow**—whether you attend our events, volunteer, sponsor, donate, or simply spread the word, you're helping to keep our town's community spirit alive and thriving.

We were also delighted to join the **Mayor of Irthlingborough, Caroline Cross**, on her wonderful **Nature Walk**, a genius idea to showcase Irthlingborough's access to the **Community Gardens** and the **Wildlife Trust's Irthlingborough Lakes and Meadows**. It was a beautiful day that reminded us just how lucky we are to live in such a vibrant and green community.

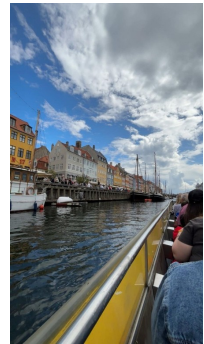
This year, the Mayor is raising funds for local good causes, and her chosen beneficiaries are **I-Grow (Irthlingborough Events)** and the **Kettering & District Samaritans**. We are deeply grateful for her support and proud to be part of her efforts to make a positive difference in our town.

Thank you for helping us to keep Irthlingborough full of life, laughter, and togetherness.

Sue Walker

Good luck to Katie and Liv who are now Leaders in Training, having started their leadership development programme this term – we wish them luck and are pleased they all want to become inspirations for the next generations.

Abi, part of Irthlingborough Rangers, went to Denmark on her first international trip with Girlguiding Midlands. Here's what she had to say about her trip: With Girlguiding Midlands 25 of us, with 5 leaders went to Denmark going to Legoland and taking part in the Denmark Dash while we were there. Then afterwards spent the day in Malmo before heading up the Oslo for a few days afterwards. It was an amazing opportunity to be part of making new friends and seeing some beautiful scenery.



Volunteers get to have fun too!

Kacey & Rachael were awarded their Queen's Guide last year and were invited to Manchester, with their plus one's, Joy & Lucy, to take part in Girlguiding Celebrates, the annual awards & recognition ceremony for the UK.

We met the Chief Guide team, Girlguiding ambassadors Anna McNuff and Laura Young, watched performances from Congleton Gang Show and the Guide & Scout Big Band, and were treated to an afternoon of entertainment, food and drink.



As part of wider Northamptonshire, Ann and Helen (Northampton) and Sam (Kettering) also were nominated for their service, passion and support.

Want to join us?

We meet weekly in term-time:

1st and 3rd Brownies – Tuesdays / Thursdays

Rainbows, Guides & Rangers – Wednesdays

We are always looking for more volunteers to help us run all of these exciting activities and provide opportunities to the young people, come and join the fun!!



QR code to join us as a volunteer:

Or visit:

www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-to-volunteer/

www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/

Year's Mind

If you wish a name to be added to the Year's Mind Book please inform the Rector or a member of the Ministry Team - contact details are on page 4.

November

1st. Constance Maria Burdett,
Cyril Reginald Read

4th. William York Tyler,
Marilyn Willis – Priest

6th. John Wilson

8th. James Douglas Applegarth

10th. Thomas Charles Perkins

11th. Ellen Margaret Odell,
George Frederick Collier,
May Elizabeth Appleyard

15th. John Simmonds

17th. James Pink – Priest,
Dorothy Hazel Dicks

19th. Maureen Richardson

20th. Kate Nicholson,
John Perkins,
Keith Bates

21st. Joyce Goosey

22nd. Doris Rose Hilton,
Jean Margaret White,
William Colin Potheary

23rd. Edith Smart,
Douglas Thompson,
Stuart Johnson

27th. Nora Burt

28th. Mollie Slawson

FLOODLIGHTING

Our thanks to everyone who has sponsored the Floodlighting.
Below is a list of entries received up to October 14th.

Please submit entries for **DECEMBER** by **NOVEMBER 15th**.

October

16th. **Georgina Dixon.**

In the inner Sanctuary
I kneel before your throne
In humble adoration – just you and I alone

November

3rd. **Ib Hove Pedersen.** In memory of your birthday.

19th. **Irene Bugby.** Wishing my precious Mum a Happy Heavenly Birthday.
Miss you every day. With much love always. Jacqueline xxx

30th. **Roy Gavin.** Thinking of you on your birthday. Love always.
Sheila, Donna, Lee, Claire and Grandkids. xxx

Floodlight the Church for Your Special Occasion

Only £3.00 per night

Please enter details in the labelled diary located at the back of church and place the money, in the envelope provided, in the wall safe.

Dedications with payments, can also be posted through the Editor's letter-box at 26 College Street. Please include a contact name and number in the event of any queries.

The copy deadline for the December 2025 issue of OUTLOOK is
November 15th.

WHO'S WHO??

Telephone

<i>CURATE</i>	Rev'd. Josh Jackson email hello@revjoshjackson.com	
<i>READERS</i>	Mrs. June Read, 4 3 Springfield Road, Thrapston Mrs. Andrea Durling, 88 Warkton Lane, Kettering Mr. Vivian Venn, 18 Rectory Gardens	01832 733407 01536 521208
<i>CHURCHWARDENS</i>	Mr. Alan Mayes Mrs. Andrea Durling	650369 01536 521208
<i>WARDEN-EMERITUS</i>	Mr. Geoff Howell, 43 Thomas Flawn Road	652158
<i>WEDDING VERGER</i>	Mr. Spencer Wainwright, 1 Spinney Terrace	650961
<i>P.C.C. CHAIRMAN</i>	Rector Fr. John Hall, The Rectory, 79 Finedon Road	650278
<i>P.C.C. SECRETARY</i>	Mr. Alan Mayes	650369
<i>P.C.C. TREASURER</i>	Mrs. Wendy Raymond	
<i>BELLRINGERS</i>	Mrs. Margaret Bull (Practice: Wednesday 7:30 pm.)	651360
<i>S.P.U.F.s (under 5's)</i>	Mondays at 2:00 pm. in Church (Contact Mrs. Anzhalika Hall)	650278
<i>MOTHERS' UNION</i>	Mrs. Maureen DeBanke Mrs. Trixie Rawlins	650462 651017
<i>CHRISTIAN AID</i>	Ruth Moss	652686
<i>ALBERT UNDERWOOD ROOM DIARY</i>	Rector Fr. John Hall, The Rectory, 79 Finedon Road (Consult the link on the Benefice website: www.nenecrossings.org.uk/diary)	650278
<i>WOMEN'S PRAYER CIRCLE</i>	Debs Francis [email: debsfrancis@live.co.uk]	07847 308 770
<i>PRAYER CHAIN LEADERS</i>	Mr. Alan Mayes	650369
<i>FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE</i>	Main contacts: Margaret Bull (651360) Alan Mayes (650369)	
<i>WEEKLY SHEET</i>	Ben Johnson, 12 Spinney Road, Irthlingborough, NN9 5RY [email: newsletter@nenecrossings.org.uk]	

