

St John the Divine, Rastrick

Your Parish Magazine

October 2026

£1.50

A wooden basket filled with pumpkins and autumn leaves, set against a stone wall background. The basket is made of light-colored wood and is filled with several orange pumpkins of various sizes, some green pumpkins, and a mix of yellow, orange, and red autumn leaves. The basket is placed on a dark wooden surface. In the background, there is a stone wall and a large brass chalice or vessel on the right.

Harvest: October 4th

Parish of St John the Divine, Rastrick
St John the Divine, Gooder Lane, Rastrick, HD6 1HN

Vicar

Rev'd Michelle Petch - 01484 710538 - vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk

Churchwardens

David Marshall - 01484 718182 - mars42@hotmail.co.uk

Hilary Cartwright - 01484 537399 - hilarymccarthy54@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Ministers

Alan Hoggard - 07756 035591- alanhoggard@btinternet.com

Anne Wiggin - 07507 155186.

Pastoral Minister

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - janehearsen83@gmail.com

Safeguarding

Jane Hearson - 07503 931444 - janehearsen83@gmail.com

Health & Safety

Please contact the Vicar or a Churchwarden.

Hall Bookings

Christine Whitaker - 01484 710952 - bookings@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk

Our Prayer For Growth

God of Mission who alone brings growth to your Church,

Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,

wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.

Help our churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment

to you, and in service to our local community,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

Here is a list of regular activities which occur in our church.
Please contact Group Leaders for details of their activities.

Sunday Services in Church

- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)
- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion or Morning Worship (2nd Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Joint Benefice Service (5th Sunday as announced)
- 1:00 p.m. BSL (*British Sign Language*) Service (2nd Sunday)

Mondays in the Community Hall

- 6:00 p.m. Rainbows and Brownies
- 7:30 p.m. Guides
- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Monday Meet - 50 Archbell Avenue
- 7:00 p.m. Beer & Banter Men's Group (Various Mondays, monthly
at The Four Sons, Clough Lane) - Alan: 07756 035591

Tuesdays in Church

- 2:00 p.m. Mothers' Union (3rd Tuesday in the month)

Tuesdays in the Community Hall

- 12:00 noon Community Lunch (1st Tuesday in the month)
- 1:30 p.m. Reminiscent Cinema (1st Tuesday in the month)
- 1:00-2:30 p.m. Tai-Chi

Wednesday Service in Church

- 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th weeks in the month)

Wednesdays in the Community Hall

- Time Wednesday Nighters (1st Wednesday in the month)
- Varies in the Sturrock Room.

Fridays

- 8:00 a.m. Prayers for our parish & people (by Zoom).
Alan: 07756 035591

Rev'd Michelle writes



As this month begins we are aware of the cooler temperatures and the nights drawing in. We know that autumn is well and truly upon us. But we can look forward to the vibrant colours of the autumn leaves as they change from green to yellows, browns, reds and oranges.

We begin October with our Harvest Festival service. This is our annual opportunity to focus on giving thanks to God for all His good gifts to us. And for remembering the needs of those who are not as fortunate as we are. This year we are supporting the Central Foodbank. Please see the display in church organised by our Missions and Charities Group for details of what particular items are required this year and come along to the service on Sunday 4th October.

There is always so much to give thanks to God for. Not only in terms of all His good gifts in creation, but particularly for us at this time to celebrate another successful beer festival, to be thankful for the number of new people in church and to celebrate the fact that our numbers are gradually increasing. We can give thanks too for the opportunities the funding we have recently secured for an outreach worker will bring for us to share God's love further with the community around us.

As the well-known harvest hymn reminds us:

*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.*

So let's not forget to give thanks to God, not only this harvest time, but always. He is good and faithful, and his love steadfast and everlasting.

With my prayers and every blessing

Michelle

SERVICES AND CHURCH INFORMATION

SERVICES at St. JOHN'S - OCTOBER

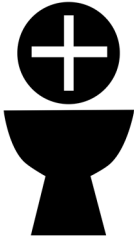
Sunday 4th - 11:00 - Harvest Festival - All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 11th - 11:00 - 19th after Trinity - Holy Communion (Rucksack C.)

1:00pm - BSL (British Sign Language) Service

Sunday 19th - 11:00 - 20th Sunday after Trinity - Holy Communion

Sunday 25th - 11:00 - Bible Sunday - Morning Worship



MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES - OCTOBER

Wednesday 7th - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 14th - 10:30 - St John's

Wednesday 21st - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 28th - 10:30 - St John's

NEXT UNITED BENEFICE SERVICES

- ◇ Sunday November 8th - Eucharist for Peace - 19:00, St J's
- ◇ Sunday November 29th - Advent Sunday - 10:30, St M's

NEXT SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S WITH PRAYER MINISTRY

* Sunday 18th October - 11:00



SPECIAL SERVICE (NEXT MONTH)

- ◇ Sunday November 1st - Loved, not lost - 4:00

PRAYER PAGE

Do you have a favourite prayer,
or have you come across a special prayer recently
which you'd like to share?

Here is a prayer from Rev'd Michelle.
She says; "It reminds us that we don't need fancy words to pray.
We can simply light a candle and be sure that God
already knows what is on our hearts and in our minds.

I don't know how to pray

I don't know how to pray
I can't find the words.

I carry in my heart so many emotions;
joy and sorrow, hope and despair,
heartache and anger, wonder and love.

I carry in my heart so many people:
those I love most deeply in this world,
family and friends, neighbours and colleagues,
even strangers in distress in distant lands.

But I don't know how to pray, and I can't find the words.
So I'm lighting a candle as a silent prayer.

Lord, would you listen to my heart?

Amen

On display in the chapel at Launde Abbey



Prayer Ministry

Prayer Ministry is offered monthly during the 11am Parish Communion Service.

An opportunity to bring concerns, people and situations before God in prayer alongside someone else.

Please come to the main door of the Lady Chapel after receiving communion if you would like to take part.

Next service with Prayer Ministry

♦ 18th October

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Phil 4:6)



A service of prayer and thanksgiving for

Healing and Wholeness 2026

Sundays @ 4 pm

Feb 15th, April 26th, June 28th, November 22nd

An informal gathering with music and videos to reflect, to pray and receive prayer for our Community, Our World, Others, and Ourselves.

For further information, contact Alan 07756035591

All welcome

Daily Lectionary Readings October 26

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<u>28-Sep</u>	<u>29-Sep</u>	<u>30-Sep</u>	<u>01-Oct</u>	<u>02-Oct</u>	<u>03-Oct</u>
Psalms 71 1 Kings 21 Acts 21.37 – 22.21	Michael and All Angels Revelation 12.7-12 John 1.47-end	Psalms 77 1 Kings 22.29-45 Acts 23.12-end	Psalms 78.1-39 2 Kings 1.2-17 Acts 24.1-23	Psalms 55 2 Kings 2.1-18 Acts 24.24 – 25.12	Psalms 76 2 Kings 4.1-37 Acts 25.13-end
<u>05-Oct</u>	<u>06-Oct</u>	<u>07-Oct</u>	<u>08-Oct</u>	<u>09-Oct</u>	<u>10-Oct</u>
Psalms 80 2 Kings 5 Acts 26.1-23	Psalms 87 2 Kings 6.1-23 Acts 26.24-end	Psalms 119.105-128 2 Kings 9.1-16 Acts 27.1-26	Psalms 90 2 Kings 9.17-end Acts 27.27-end	Psalms 88 2 Kings 12.1-19 Acts 28.1-16	Psalms 96 2 Kings 17.1-23 Acts 28.17-end
<u>12-Oct</u>	<u>13-Oct</u>	<u>14-Oct</u>	<u>15-Oct</u>	<u>16-Oct</u>	<u>17-Oct</u>
Psalms 98 2 Kings 17.24-end Philippians 1.1-11	Psalms 106 2 Kings 18.1-12 Philippians 1.12-end	Psalms 110 2 Kings 18.13-end Philippians 2.1-13	Psalms 113 2 Kings 19.1-19 Philippians 2.14-end	Psalms 139 2 Kings 19.20-36 Philippians 3.1 – 4.1	Psalms 120 2 Kings 20 Philippians 4.2-end
<u>19-Oct</u>	<u>20-Oct</u>	<u>21-Oct</u>	<u>22-Oct</u>	<u>23-Oct</u>	<u>24-Oct</u>
Psalms 123 2 Kings 21.1-18 1 Timothy 1.1-17	Psalms 132 2 Kings 22.1 – 23.3 1 Timothy 1.18 – end 2	Psalms 119.153-end 2 Kings 23.4-25 1 Timothy 3	Psalms 143 2 Kings 23.36 – 24.17 1 Timothy 4	Psalms 142 2 Kings 24.18 – 25.12 1 Timothy 5.1-16	Psalms 147 2 Kings 25.22-end 1 Timothy 5.17-end
<u>26-Oct</u>	<u>27-Oct</u>	<u>28-Oct</u>	<u>29-Oct</u>	<u>30-Oct</u>	<u>31-Oct</u>
Psalms 1 Judith 4 1 Timothy 6.1-10	Psalms 5 Judith 5.1 – 6.4 1 Timothy 6.11-end	Simon and Jude Ephesians 2.19-end John 15.17-27	Psalms 14 Judith 7.19-end 2 Timothy 1.15 – 2.13	Psalms 17 Judith 8.9-end 2 Timothy 2.14-end	Psalms 20 Judith 9 2 Timothy 3

Other Apps and websites that are worth exploring: [‘Everyday Faith’](#), [‘Our Daily Bread’](#), [‘Lectio 365’](#), [‘Daily Prayer’](#), [‘Word for Today’](#)
 Google search or find them on play store .

Monday Meet 2 pm – 4 pm

All Welcome

At the home of Shirley Stow
50 Archbell Avenue, HD6 3SU

An informal gathering with the opportunity
To unpack the Bible readings from the previous day,
Talk current issues, tackle everyday dilemmas,
Drink coffee, and eat cake.

Faith, fun and fellowship

For further information or to confirm location
call Shirley (01484 714209 or Alan (07756 035591)

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Michael Storey

invites you to stay
for drinks and cake after the service on:

Sunday 4th October

to celebrate his 90th Birthday!



**United Benefice of
St John the Divine
and St Matthews, Rastrick**



All are welcome to:

- ◇ a service to remember our loved ones and God's love for us.
- ◇ light a candle, celebrate their lives with favourite hymns and
- ◇ after the service, share memories over a cup of tea or coffee.

Loved, not lost

**Sundays 25th October
at St Matthew's
and 1st November
at St John's.
Both at 4.00 pm**

**Further details please contact Rev'd Michelle Petch
(01484) 710538, vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk**

**The United Benefice of Rastrick
St Matthew's & St John the Divine**



Eucharist For Peace

Sunday 8th Nov. - 19:00

St. John the Divine, Rastrick, HD6 1HN

Beer and Christianity

*This is a copy of an article which will be published on
Thursday 22 October in the Echo and The Courier*

Yes, they do go together and so does wine! I am sure that if you were sat with me now, and I asked you to give me an example of when beer or wine is mentioned in the Bible I think you could give me a myriad of answers. Just pause, and think when is wine mentioned in the New Testament?

The most popular answer would be when Jesus turned water into wine. He was at a wedding banquet and the host was in danger of running out of wine. After being asked by His mother, Jesus ordered the stewards at the party to fill large urns with water. When the water was drawn off for the guests, the head steward said to the bridegroom, that most people would serve the best wine at the beginning of the meal but that he had kept the best till the last. There was an abundance of wine for the celebrations. God is bountiful and generous. The other occasion that some of you would cite was that Jesus often sat with His disciples for meals and shared food together. You will remember that at Jesus' last supper He took bread and wine and shared it between His disciples. He asked that they, and all His subsequent followers now over 2000 years later, should break bread and drink wine in remembrance of Him.

I recently went to Greenbelt, which is a camping festival of arts, faith, music, dance, political talks and much more. It is attended by in excess of 10,000 people. One of the many and varied events which I love is called Beer and Hymns. Around 2000 people, whilst holding a tankard full of beer, sing many of the wonderful hymns that we enjoy today.



Greenbelt

I have got a clip of the singing which I wish I could put into print for you to hear now! The sound generated raises the roof, glasses are raised, and our hearts are raised. An amazing hour of praise, fun and joy. I learnt one year to play the banjo, weave baskets with bamboo and reeds. I have attended sessions with Tibetan monks, a comedy session led by Luisa Omielan, acrobatics, and talks about Trump or about the plight of the Ukrainians. Amongst other bands and celebrities, The Proclaimers provided a very good set. There are two bars on the site: The Jesus Arms and the Blue Nun. They became very good meeting points!



Moving on to another weekend here in Rastrick, there was plenty of beer on sale at the Rastrick St John's Beer Festival with 24 different beers, ciders and a few non-alcoholic beers and Prosecco. This was St John's 11th Annual Beer Festival. The Organising Committee say that it is a popular community event attracting people from Rastrick and Brighouse and they welcome all from far and wide. Over the years the Festival has raised over £50,000 for church funds and local charities. This year it supports

Cromwell Bottom Nature Reserve. The Community Hall was packed with people cradling pints of beer, eating pork pies and peas and generally having a really good time taking the opportunity to meet and make new friends in a very relaxed atmosphere!

St Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome "it is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that makes your brother and sister stumble." There was no stumbling at either Greenbelt or at St John's Beer Festival but there was a grand sense of community, support and love.

Julia



God is putting the pieces together

“Our light affliction...is working for us.”

2 Corinthians 4:17 NKJV

Without God’s Word, most of our experiences in life make no sense whatsoever. With it, we can decipher our experiences. Few things are more comforting or more exhilarating than knowing that God is the One putting together the jigsaw puzzle of your life. It was a London cartographer, John Spilsbury, who is credited with commercialising jigsaw puzzles around 1760. During the Great Depression, they were popularised in America as a cheap form of entertainment. Puzzles come in all shapes and sizes, including the latest and greatest – 3D spherical jigsaws. But the method of assembly has not changed. It requires the fitting together of oddly shaped, interlocking pieces. The key is the picture on top of the box. Without it, you’re lost. And that’s why many of us feel helpless and hopeless at times – because the pieces of our lives don’t seem to fit together, and we can’t see God’s vision for the whole. Few have suffered more than the apostle Paul, yet he wrote: ‘Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal’ (2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NKJV). Yes, bad things do happen to good people. But God has promised to recycle it, redeem it, and use it for our good and His glory.

Copies of Word for Today are available online or at the back of church.

Women of the Bible

Real Lives • Timeless Faith • One God

**ALL
ARE
WELCOME!**

*Explore
Share together
Grow in faith
Be encouraged*

A 6-week Bible study exploring the lives
of 12 remarkable women and what their
stories mean for us today.

*Different women.
Different stories.
The same faithful God.*

*Faith
for today*

THE SIX SESSIONS

1 Eve & Sarah

*Faith, failure
and God's
promises*



2 Naomi & Ruth

*Loss, loyalty
and new
beginnings*



3 Hannah & Deborah

*Prayer,
leadership
and courage*



4 Rahab & Esther

*Courage, risk
and God's
purpose*



5 Martha & Mary Magdalene

*Discipleship, service
and encountering
Jesus*



6 Mary & Lydia

*Saying yes
and sharing
the gospel*



Mondays

at Shirley Stow's house
50 Archbell Avenue
2pm



Thursdays

at Cherry Fancourts
7, Oaks Green Mount
10:30am

Starts week commencing 19th October 2026



*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses,
let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."*

HEBREWS 12:1



St. John's Rucksack Club

SUNDAY 11th October

Half Day Walk

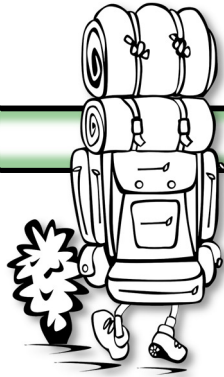
Depart Church: 1.00pm

Walk Distance: 3.5 to 4 miles

Area: Harden, with woodland and waterfalls. A relaxing walk.

Leader: Sarah Weller

Contact: 0073050604613



SATURDAY 24th October

Area: Birkhouse & Clifton

Distance: 5 5 Miles

Depart Church: 10.00

Description: Our walk starts from the carpark in Wellhome Park, Brighouse, off **Thornhills Beck Lane**. **We walk along the footpath parallel to Bradford Road towards Bailiff Bridge then bearing right with a short climb to Birkhouse onto Jay House Lane. crossing Halton Lane and through Golf Course towards Clifton and back down to Wellhome park**

Leaders: Roger & Margaret Ellis

Contact : 07551914243

St. John's Rucksack Club

RUCKSACK CLUB COFFEE MORNING

As you know the club has committed to hosting the monthly coffee morning at church on the 10th October.

This year the nominated charity is Incredible Edible Brighthouse, nominated by Anne Howarth

Please see the article on the following page for further details regarding this worthy cause.

Looking forward to seeing you at the coffee morning, so make sure it's in the diary !! if you are free?



RUCKSACK CLUB ANNUAL LUNCH

The Rucksack Club Annual Lunch is on Sunday 1st November at Briar Court Hotel, Halifax, Birchenclyffe.



If anyone is interested in joining the event please contact Roger Ellis for details (07551914243)



ST JOHN'S COFFEE & CAKE - Saturday 10 October 2026
Hosted by St John's Rucksack Club with funds raised for:



Incredible Edible Brighouse is a group of volunteers working in Brighouse helping to retain and reuse our green spaces. Our aim is to develop skills that benefit the local community in growing and cooking local produce. Our main site is the Community Garden at Bridge End.

We provide free food for the local community to pick and enjoy. We grow most of the produce from seed or plug plants grown locally. This includes a mixture of vegetables, herbs and flowers. We grow flowers alongside our edibles to support pollinators and provide habitats for insects, invertebrates and amphibians. We also have apple, pear, plum and cherry trees. We don't use peat or pesticides and we aim to plant drought tolerant plants.

We used to look after a number of sites in Brighouse but these have been removed as part of the Brighouse Town Development Scheme. However, we have a new project working in collaboration with Central Methodist Food Bank. They have some land at the side of Wesley House which has been neglected and we are working on clearing the beds and planting food which the Food Bank will be able to distribute. Work has already started on clearing the beds on the site and we will need top soil, compost, plants, fruit trees and water butts to collect rain water. We look forward to the coming seasons and the produce we can grow.

We are always in need of more volunteers to help us. No special gardening experience is required as all new volunteers will be welcomed and supported.

If you want to get involved please call John on 01484 711835 or email: incredibleediblebrighouse@gmail.co.

Anne Howarth, Treasurer



Outreach worker

We have managed to obtain a grant of £45,000 over 3 years from the New Road Sunday School Trust to employ someone to work across the benefice as an outreach worker. Their role will be to work with the congregations at St John's and St Matthew's in the following areas:

- Build relationships with people who are new to church
- Work with existing and new volunteers to develop 'Open the Book' in local schools
- Develop relationships with care homes
- Encourage, train and support volunteers involved in outreach and pastoral ministry
- When the time is right, establish groups for young families

This project will take time to develop and to map out exactly what is needed. The PCC has agreed to support the project; please pray that the right person will be available to help lead us in this initiative

Alan

What the Vicar has been doing

Just a selection...



Pulling pints and generally circulating at the Beer Festival



Home Group at Cherry's

Experiencing Isaiah 64:8 (*The Potter and the clay*)



Singing
"The Love of God comes close"
with the Rastrick Voices

Reader Licensing
Service
at Wakefield
Cathedral



Harvest Festival at Railway Bridge View



....and LOTS of this!

A note about copyright

I'm very careful that all the images (*photos and graphics*) which I use myself in the magazine are with permission or copyright free. If you send me items with images, please make sure that they are your own or that you are using them with permission.

Unfortunately, just because an image appears on Social Media it doesn't mean that permission is automatically granted.

A good website which I frequently use for my (*free*) photos, graphics and illustrations is: <https://pixabay.com> where the licence gives permission to use the content for '*Commercial and non-commercial purposes*'.

A similar website for images is: <https://unsplash.com>

...or as most of you do, you can simply send me text and I'll add a suitable photo or graphic when I format it on the page. It's no problem - I enjoy it!

I'm sorry, but from now on I won't be able to accept images if permission can't be confirmed.

Pam

Rastrick Voices Rehearsals

Oct-25	12:00-1:00
Nov-15	12:00-1:00
Nov-22	12:00-1:00
Monday Nov 30	7:30-9:00
Dec-06	12:00-1:00
Friday Dec 18	7:30-9:00



All rehearsals in church.



Music News

Did you enjoy listening to the Rastrick Voices singing the beautiful hymn, "The Love of God comes close" on 6th September?



You've now heard it twice - the first time by the Music Group, then more recently, in harmony by the Voices. We think it might be familiar enough now for it to become a congregational hymn. I'm sure we'll be singing it at some point in the future.



You may have seen the posters on pages 10 & 11. These special, very moving services will be upon us at the beginning of next month. The Music Group always feels very privileged to be involved in providing the music.

Meanwhile, I don't like to mention it, but Christmas will soon be approaching, and the Voices will begin to rehearse for the Carol Service which is on the evening of 20th December. *(Keep the date free!)*



Voices; on the previous page is a reminder of your rehearsals:

Thanks, 



ECO Church

Be a squeaky wheel.

Does sending letters, emails and petitions to our MPs actually work? It seems such a little thing to do and just a drop in the ocean which will go unnoticed. Personally, I am not going to throw tomato soup at a piece of art, glue myself to the road or chain myself to some railings to make my feelings known. But being a “squeaky wheel” can and does work if enough of us add our voices. There’s a famous quote, sometimes attributed to Arthur Ashe, the tennis player: “Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.” And we can all send a letter or e-mail or sign a petition. A petition led by Chris Packham for Parliament to hold a UK-wide briefing on climate and nature risks passed the threshold of 100,000 signatures (which means it will go forward to be considered for debate in Parliament) three months early. This shows MPs of all parties how many of their constituents’ care about this issue. We are still waiting for Andy Burnham to make a decision on the development of the Rosebank oil field, but he cannot claim not to know what many, many people think of this proposal and thanks to all of you who emailed or wrote to your MP about this. This summer has been a wake-up call to many Climate Change fence sitters. The heat, the wildfires and the water shortages we have all experienced this summer brought home the fact that climate change is here right now and cannot be ignored. The Government, as a result of public pressure, finally debated the Joint Intelligence



Committee report on ecosystem collapse and natural security *. Over 6,000 emails were sent to over 623 different MPs. That’s about 95% of all MPs who were urged to act on this groundbreaking report and that has had a huge impact.

Again and again during this debate MPs across the political spectrum urged the Government to go further and faster to restore nature, to protect farmers and to act as a global leader. As a result of this debate, we have finally got to hear how the new Government will respond to the report. Obviously not everyone is on the same page. Richard Tice, Deputy Leader of Reform, is a vocal climate change denier and the Conservative leadership are now blocking prospective Conservative candidates that support net zero. Calderdale Council is (at the time of writing) about to debate a motion to “undeclare” the climate emergency. But 3000 well-attended screenings of the National Emergency Briefing organised throughout Britain tell the government and the press another story. People want more action and less rhetoric.

So, let’s keep on squeaking!

*If you would like to watch some of the debate there is a 3-minute video. Just look up National Loss and the National Security Debate or look up “Global diversity loss, ecosystem collapse and national security” for a 14-page written summary of the original report.

Rosemary Lake on behalf of Eco-Group



*Working on the church
precincts in the Summer*

Missions & Charities



October 4th is Harvest Sunday. This year we will be supporting the Brighthouse Central Food Bank with all donations of food, toiletries, cleaning materials and money. Look out for the display in church.

At our recent meeting, we discussed the Safe House in Mara Diocese and how we might help with its funding. We are awaiting costs from Mara.

ActionAid is working in Nepal, so we have sent £250 for relief work following the catastrophic flooding there.

Missions and Charities group

Coffee Morning

Many thanks to everyone who supported and gave generous donations at the Coffee and Cake on September 12th. On the day, £233 was raised for the Nyakiswa girls, Lucia and Hellene.

I have added some earlier donations and the proceeds from marmalade and jam sales, and will be sending £420 into our Nyakiswa Youth Training account at Leeds Diocese.

Our support is gratefully received by the people in Nyakiswa.



Oriel

Samaritan's Purse - Shoeboxes



As a church, we are once again supporting the work of the Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Christmas appeal. Leaflets are in church, and as usual, for those who would like to buy a box already made up, a limited number will be available again this year, at a cost of £17 per box including shipping.

Many thanks, *Gill Mills*.

The Men of the Churches of Rastrick Host

Beer and Banter 2026

**Mondays at
The Four Sons, Rastrick 7 pm**



19th Oct - Good News for Everyone – Mark Stevenson

16th Nov – CICS – Robert Fox

16th Dec (Wednesday) – Annual Dinner @ The 4 Sons

18th Jan – Canada coast to coast – Alan



All Men Welcome

For further details, call Alan on 07756035591

**Pic
and
Peas!!**

BRIGHOUSE CENTRAL FOODBANK

We are grateful for all your contributions to the Brighouse Central Foodbank.

In October we would particularly appreciate the following:

- Cans of chilli con carne
- Cans of corned beef
- Cans of rice pudding
- Packets of cream crackers

Plus:

- Cans of custard
- Packets of dried mashed potato

We get through so many of these!

Thank you so much for your support.

Rosemary & Norman



A CELEBRATION OF

SIMON & GARFUNKEL

AS HEARD ON
BBC RADIO

**PERFORMED LIVE BY
TIM CHU & IAN BAILEY**

The UK's NUMBER 1 NON TRIBUTE SHOW



★★★★★

"Tim and Ian moved between harmonies and shared vocals like a gestalt entity, with all the vocal nuances, dynamics and phrasing that make S&G so unique while finding their own take on the material. Absolutely first class."

★★★★★

"A stunning blend of observation, interpretation, and perfect vocal synergy."



SATURDAY 14th November 2026

ST JOHN THE DIVINE RASTRICK HD6 1HT

Doors 6.45pm / starts 7.30pm

Refreshments Available

Tickets £15 email bookings@stjohnrastrick.org.uk

or local rate box office on 0333 666 3366

<https://www.ticketsource.com/timtone-productions>

www.classicsingersongwriters.co.uk/sandg

Church Coffee Mornings

Coffee & Cake!

Held on the second Saturday each month. 10:00 - 12:00

Here's the complete list for the year.

January 10th:	Hosted by the Wednesday Nighters ✓
February 14th:	Hosted by the Church Musicians ✓
March 14th:	Hosted by Missions & Charities ✓
April 11th:	Hosted by Wednesday Nighters ✓
May 9th:	Christian Aid ✓
June 13th:	Turning Point ✓
July 11th:	Cancelled
August 8th:	Hosted by the Mothers' Union ✓
September 12th:	Hosted by the Mara Group ✓
October 10th:	Hosted by the Rucksack Club
November 14th:	Hosted by the ECO Group
December 12th:	Hosted by the Mothers' Union



Beer Festival



A few photos from
our recent successful
Beer Festival!



Nearly 300 people attended



190 pies

10 tins of peas



1000 pints





42 volunteers

Lots of chat



Friendships renewed



ALL SOULS'

AMATEUR OPERATIC
SOCIETY

PRESENTS...

MAGIC AT THE

Musicals



& Many More!

PERFORMANCES

- ★ Saturday 10th October | 2.30pm
St John's, Rastrick, HD6 1HT
- ★ Sunday 11th October | 2.30pm
St Jude's, Halifax, HX1 2XE

BOOK NOW

- Tickets £10 —
- ☎ 07752 889821
- 🌐 [ticketsource.com/
all-souls-amateur-operatic-society](http://ticketsource.com/all-souls-amateur-operatic-society)

Autumn Events at St John's

There is a lot happening during the final quarter of the year at St John's. I'm sure you can find something here to tempt you....

Orchestra of Square Chapel

4th October

An afternoon of wonderful orchestral music.

All Souls Operatic Society – Magic at the Musicals

10th October

A spectacular afternoon celebrating some of the best-loved songs from musical theatre.

Brighthouse Theatre Productions – Noises Off

28th–31st October

A hilarious comedy and wonderfully chaotic backstage farce.

A Celebration of Simon & Garfunkel

14th November

Enjoy the timeless songs and harmonies of one of the world's best-loved musical partnerships.

Paddock Orchestra

21st November

Enjoy another opportunity to hear live orchestral music at St John's, including orchestra members Anne B, John H, Pam D and Graham K.

Pantomime – Aladdin

8th–12th December

A wonderful festive treat for all the family.

Christmas Carol Service

20th December

Nine Lessons & Carols with the Rastrick Voices.

Caption that!

Can you think of
a suitable caption
for this photo?

The winning caption
will be printed
with the photo
in the next magazine.

Have a go!

Printed with permission!



Send your suggestions to: stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com
with the heading, 'Caption'. Deadline: Monday 19th October



Thank you for all of
your suggestions.

The winning caption
for last month's photo
was sent in by

Shirley

and was chosen by
the three of them.

Hee hee! "It's t' way tha tells 'em. Rod!"

Eco Church - Re-use Stall

The next
Eco Church Re-use Stall
is on:

**Saturday 10th &
Sunday 11th October**



COFFEE & CAKE

The next Coffee & Cake in Church
will be on **Saturday 10th October** 10.00-12.00.
Hosted by **Rucksack Club**



COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next Community Lunch
will be on **Tuesday 6th October**, 12:00
Followed by the Reminiscent Cinema, 1:30

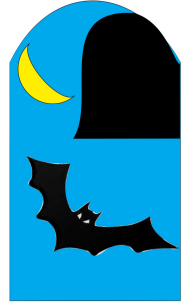


The rest of the 'caption that' entries for August's photo:

- "Copped on camera baht mi breeks!"
- "I've never been a thorn between two roses before."
- "Having a joke at my expense!"
- "Can't imagine what they are laughing at."
- Sorry, but I can't see the joke.
- "Am I the Rose between the Thorns or the Donkey between the Shafts?"
- Well I suppose I will have to eat my hat!!!
- That wir a reet grand joke. Split mee sides laughing. Thert knees wint bad either !!!

PUZZLE PAGE by the Bat in the Belfry

October has arrived, and Autumn is well under way. Try these two as the nights continue to draw in.



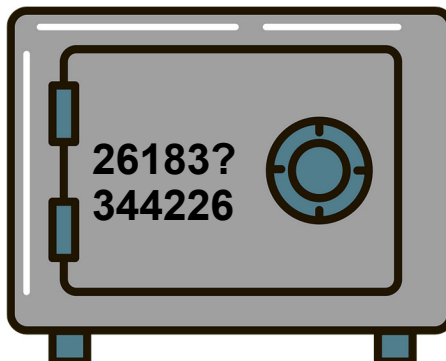
26 – 19 Chuff Chuff

Below are anagrams of ten famous British engines or trains. Can you work out their names?

- 1) DOOR TAN 2) ALL DRAM 3) GLIBLY NIFF UP
- 4) PREEN RANDY 5) CRY FRUIT TOO 6) STRANGE VINE
- 7) TORT CHEEK 8) CAST NOT ORINOCO 9) GREY ISLE SLINGER
- 10) GYMNAST LEFT IN COSH

26 – 20 Quite Safe

What's the digit you need to input in the space with the question mark to complete the code for the safe?



Last month's answers

26 – 17 Butterfly Bonanza

1) Speckled Wood 2) Red Admiral 3) Peacock 4) Painted Lady 5) Large Blue 6) Gatekeeper 7) Clouded Yellow 8) Comma 9) Common Blue 10) Brimstone

The two not illustrated were therefore the Scotch Argus and the Meadow Brown

26 – 18 Connections

1. CARLY SIMON. (The Spy who loved me 1977)
2. MATT MONRO. (From Russia with love 1963)
3. DURAN-DURAN. (A view to a kill 1985)
4. SHEENA EASTON. (For your eyes only 1981)
5. PAUL McCartney & WINGS. (Live & let die 1973)
6. GLADYS KNIGHT. (License to kill 1989)
7. A-HA. (The living daylights 1987).
8. RITA COOLIDGE. (Octopussy 1983)
9. TINA TURNER. (Goldeneye 1995)
10. They have all sung James Bond movie theme songs

MORE NEXT MONTH

SHIRLEY....

Missed Opportunity!

I had just put two coffee cake mixtures in the oven and was watching the clock to take them out when baked, when there was a ring on my front doorbell. Should I answer it and maybe burn my cakes? Yes. I had just enough time to see who was there. Surprise!...It was the local team of Jehovah's Witnesses. I had met them before. I told them I had something in the oven and was sorry I could not hear what they had to say. They apologised, handed me the following printed text: on the top side it said, "Is living without pain or sadness possible? And suggested reading from Revelation 21:4

On the other side it suggested the reading "God doesn't cause our problems" James 1:13 and He cares about what we experience and will rescue us from our distress Psalm 34:17-19

As I took the leaflet, they asked what I was baking. "A coffee cake and some assorted biscuits", I told them. "I don't eat coffee cake as I don't like the taste of coffee." said one lady. "I like both!", said the younger one. "They are for me to take down to my daughter's as we are celebrating my birthday.", I paused then said. "I know you do not celebrate birthdays or Christmas". There was a silence as they smiled and walked away. I wished I had had more time to talk. You may be thinking why waste my time? Do they waste their time, sincerely believing they are carrying Jesus's message to 'convert' people to their faith? Why shouldn't I have a go?

As I returned to my baking, I would have said, "We celebrate Christ's birth every year in joyful thanks that God delivered His precious Son to us so that we could get to know and understand how God wants us to behave, both to Himself and each other." In a similar way I love celebrating my birthday when I realise what good things I have enjoyed the previous year and that God has granted me more time to walk with Him through the coming year.

I also love to receive from and send cards to friends who are part of my everyday life. I would have liked to tell them, that we celebrate family birthdays too and thank God for the joy they bring and how they now behave towards each other.

Gosh, would they have taken any notice of my reasoning for celebration, or would they have tried to convince me I was wrong? What a missed opportunity!

Shirley

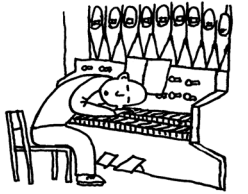
AND FINALLY....

THE LITURGICAL PAUSE

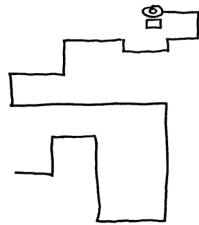
THIS IS ONE OF THE CENTRAL ELEMENTS OF A CHURCH SERVICE.
WE OBSERVE A LITURGICAL PAUSE AT THE FOLLOWING POINTS:



AT MOMENTS WHEN
PONDERING IS EXPECTED



WHEN THE ORGANIST
HASN'T COME IN



WHEN THE READER HAS
A PARTICULARLY GRUELLING
JOURNEY TO THE LECTERN



WHEN AN EASTER FIRE
OR ADVENT CANDLE
REFUSES TO LIGHT



WHEN NO-ONE WILL ADMIT TO
BEING THE PERSON DOWN
TO LEAD THE INTERCESSIONS



WHEN NOBODY HAS A
CLUE WHAT IS SUPPOSED
TO HAPPEN NEXT

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - OCTOBER



Thursday 1st *(and following Thursdays)*

Home Group at Cherry's 10:30-12:00
(From 22nd Oct - Women of the Bible)

Saturday 3rd

Sing for your Supper - Harvest Supper at St M's 7:00

Sunday 4th

Harvest Festival
Celebration for Michael Storey's 90th birthday
Orchestra of the Square Chapel concert 3:00

Monday 5th *(and every Monday)*

Monday Meet/Home Group at Shirley's. 2:00- 4:00
(From 19th October - Women of the Bible)

Tuesday 6th

Community Lunch & Reminiscent Cinema 12:00

Saturday 10th

Coffee & Cake (Hosted by the Rucksack Club) 10:00-12:00
Re-use Stall
All Souls Operatic - Magic at the Musicals 2:30

Sunday 11th

British Sign Language service 1:00
Re-use Stall
Rucksack Club Half Day Walk

Sunday 18th

Prayer Ministry during the 11:00 am service

Monday 19th

Beer & Banter - The Four Sons 7:00

Saturday 24th

Rucksack Club Full Day Walk

Wed 28th - Sat 31st

Brighthouse Theatre Productions, 'Noises Off' 7:15

All items for the October magazine to: stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com
by 9:00 a.m. Monday 19th October please.



Website : www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk



Parish Calendar : <http://tinyurl.com/jcjrehp>



Facebook : www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivine

Wi-Fi

Network : everywhere
Password : anywhere