Issue 6: July 2025



The Virgin of Kyiv known by some as the Virgin of Vladimir

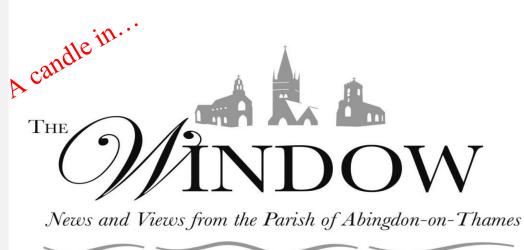
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Caring for the World



Photo: Nasa

Welcome!

To Revd Dr. Jen Brown:

Newly appointed Rector of the Parish of Abingdon-on-Thames! A date for Jen's licensing and induction will be announced in due course.

Agnostics Anonymous, 24th June 2025

Can Christianity Help Combat the Extinction Crisis?: led by Revd. Dr. Jennifer Brown, summarised by Louise Heffernan

Jen began by defining an extinction crisis as an impending mass extinction event (loss of 76% of all species) which is imminent and preventable, and which has developed from a non-crisis condition.

Are we facing such a crisis? There is evidence to indicate we are now at the start of The Earth's sixth mass extinction event and, unlike previous mass extinctions that were caused by geological activity or the famous dinosaur-killing asteroid, this one is being caused by human activity. Jen cited Professor David Jablonski¹ a palaeontologist whose study of mass extinctions, resulting in a dramatic reduction of biological diversity, underpins Jen's statement that such an event is looming, with many species now having dwindled to the point of no return.

So, can Christianity help combat the extinction crisis that our world is facing? Or is Christianity part of the problem? Much of Christian thinking relates to Genesis 1.26 in which God gives Adam 'dominion' over plants and animals: "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." The noun 'dominion' has been interpreted historically in the Church as 'mastery,' allowing us to exert authority over all species whereas Jen argues that the passage suggests that God wants humankind to care for His creation, not to exploit it for its own ends.

In Genesis 2, Adam is tasked with naming all plants and animals, further suggesting to some readers that God intended man to be superior to all other created beings, but again Jen argues that just as we name our children and pets, God's intention was that naming creates identity not superior separateness.

More recently, thankfully, Bible scholars focus on the idea of 'stewardship': we are to be caretakers of God's creation. Jen went on to refer to stories in the Bible such as Noah (the ark was built to preserve the animals) and Jonah (in which God highlights his concern not just for the people but also the animals in Ninevah).

Similarly, in Revelation 5.¹³, John the Divine has a vision of all creation worshipping God ... "every creature in heaven and on earth, and under the earth, and in the sea...singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might forever and ever!"". Driving creatures to extinction diminishes the worship of God, something that Christians should find abhorrent. This verse, reminding us that all creation worships, should act as a spur to protecting and nurturing our fellow creatures.

And in Mark 16 Jesus tells his disciples to "preach the good news to the whole creation." Most of creation speaks no human language. So, to preach the good news to all creation, we must <u>be</u> good news to all creation. How we live, the choices we make, the foods we eat and avoid eating, the way we tend our gardens, how we treat the animals that we encounter, in all of those things, Christians are called to be good news to the whole creation. If Christians took that call seriously, it would make an enormous difference to the amount of animal suffering in the world, and to the number of species facing extinction.

2

¹ Jablonski D. 1991 Extinctions: a paleontological perspective. Science 353, 754–757. (doi:10.1126/science.253.5021.754)

Jen concluded by saying that the issue of dominion isn't the sole cause of the extinction crisis, but that, additionally, it is human greed, the desire to measure a society's success by its economic growth, which causes mankind to exploit the natural world, so endangering the delicate balance of God's creation.

Can Christianity help combat the extinction crisis? If the world's two-and a-half billion Christians take the teachings of our faith on the value of non-human creation and the dangers of valuing wealth above all else seriously, and if we have the courage of our convictions, then yes, it can.

Following Jen's talk there was a lively series of questions, with answers offered by John Barton and John Kerr as well as Jen herself.

- Q. Which species are we monitoring? A. Those we know about. The monitoring is sufficiently good to be able to predict mass extinction.
- Q. Is there an element of self-interest in our desire to preserve species? A. Yes, all creation is interconnected e.g. we need the bees to pollinate crops.
- Q. Is there a clash between the need to feed the world and the needs of the animal kingdom? A. Not if we all adopt a more plant-based diet. Not necessarily no meat, but much less meat.
- Q. What about meat-eating animals? A. The Bible separates creation before the flood and afterwards when meat was the only option for animals.
- Q. What about Peter's vision in Acts 10? A. The vision guides Peter in that he knows he can now eat (and mix) with Gentiles as well as Jews. It should not be interpreted as an instruction to eat meat.
- Q. Is there any evidence to suggest that young people are turning to plant-based diets? A. Young people are certainly greatly concerned about environmental issues. Many young people are alienated by the Church's lack of care for the environment.
- Q. Should the question rather relate to a population crisis? If we all eat soya etc, surely we will struggle to find the land to cultivate plant-based foods in sufficient quantity? A. Yes there is a population crisis but feeding animals for food for humans is much less efficient than growing food specifically for human consumption.
- Q. Is the solution in fact political and economic? Can Christians living by Christian principles change the world sufficiently? Will it not take far too long? A. Systemic change could take place if Christians work to return to the ideal and speak out about environmental issues in the social and political spheres. Christians are asked to model the vision of what the day of salvation looks like.

Further discussion took place about environmental focus in other faiths, leading onto the question of why the Church is so behind with thinking on this topic. John Kerr suggested that we need to repent for our past actions. Like St Basil the Great in his 'Lament for Sin,' we should lament the hurt done to the animal kingdom by humankind, including Christians.

On a final more optimistic note, Sir David Attenborough's documentary, 'Ocean,' reminds us that where marine reservations have been established, sea life has recovered very speedily. There is hope that it is not too late to bring about change in all areas of creation.

That most urgent of questions:

Rob Rutherford invited Patrick Holligan and Geoff Meen to coffee to discuss the environment. A summary!

This is a big issue ranging from the dumping of sewage and plastic in our rivers and seas to the release of carbon dioxide and other pollutants into the atmosphere via the burning of fossil fuels leading to climate change. Biodiversity is under threat on land because of urban development, our farming practices and the destruction of forests, and in the ocean through over-fishing and the use, as highlighted recently, of sea-bed trawling. It has been called an existential issue because it could affect our very existence. Of particular concern is that those who are not responsible may well suffer most.

We agreed that many issues are involved here – the promotion of economic growth, the regulation of industry, finding a route to net-zero, personal freedom versus the needs of society etc. Patrick is an oceanographer and thinks that the speed of our response to climate change is far too slow and inadequate to the task. Geoff is an economist who has worked in government, focussing on poverty and the need for good housing. He knows that the challenge of policy is to get from 'here' to 'there' without unintended consequences. Patrick is sceptical of industry - we all recognise that lobbying by vested interests has had negative consequences for progress – and he thinks that the capitalist need for profit distorts all else. Geoff points to the influential work of Mariana Mazzucato who argues that the big challenges facing society require the government to set broad missionary goals. She takes as inspiration the challenge put before Congress by Kennedy in 1961 to land an astronaut on the moon and bring them back safely. Private and public bodies worked together to solve a problem without an obvious solution. Such an entrepreneurial approach requires a civil service that has sufficient expertise, without relying on consultants, to negotiate contracts which share the risk and the rewards.*

This discussion was prompted by the work of Dieter Helm, Professor of Economic Policy at the University of Oxford and Fellow in Economics at New College, Oxford. His latest book 'Legacy' argues for a 'sustainable economy' so that we can pass on to the next generation a world just as good as we inherited. He is not against economic growth. Human creativity and the progress resulting from it are vital BUT we need to make sure that progress does not degrade the natural, physical, human and social capital that we all depend on.

Here are some important points he makes:

When predictions are uncertain, we should adopt the 'precautionary' principle.

Polluters should pay for their pollution (NB this includes all of us).

Spending should focus first on conservation of the assets we inherit.

Our carbon footprints must include the carbon released in the manufacture of those things we import.

In all this, social justice is vital – the rich must not gain at the expense of the poor.

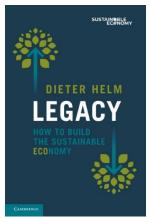
We are the church – what can we do?

- Give voice to the poor, the marginalised.
- Witness: do what we can as individuals and as a body.
- Study the gospel message, study what is going on in the world and use what influence we have for good.
- Pray for wisdom.

Is that good enough? Here is a simple message – Pollution is not good enough.

Dieter Helm's book 'Legacy' is available via the usual outlets but he has also made it available through a 'creative commons' licence and can be downloaded here:





Travel in the age of climate change

Catherine Kimber et al

A couple of years ago, I went to Salisbury Cathedral to hear Edmund sing Evensong with Abingdon School Chapel choir, along with a few other parents. At the end of the service, I was the only one heading back to the train station as the others had all driven in individual cars. Half-jokingly, I remarked that being a member of the Church of England was an easy act of faith, compared to believing that one can get to places by public transport. I feel similarly about going abroad on holiday without using an aeroplane.

We've known since the early 2000s that flying is "bad for the environment," but once I put some numbers on it, I could see what a huge impact it has. A return flight to Tokyo in premium economy emits more CO2 than a high-mileage year driving a luxury car, and nearly twice as much as heating an average house with gas for a year. If I made a huge effort and switched from my current "no beef" diet to full on veganism for a whole year, I'd wipe out all the savings and more with one return flight to Rome.

So, in 2017, Martin and I decided that we would no longer fly for holidays but would instead travel by train where possible. We had already taken a lot of our trips by rail, so it wasn't too difficult to make the leap from "rarely fly" to "never fly." We very much enjoy our journeys and consider them part of the holiday. Our children have grown up with a good sense of how far apart places are, gaining along the way a love of sleeper trains, an appreciation for the buffet car, and some familiarity with Brussels Midi station. As a family we have been to Austria, Switzerland, Germany and the Czech Republic entirely by train, and I have also done two business trips by Eurostar and high-speed rail to Barcelona and Milan. Both journeys fitted into a day's travel, and each gave me a very pleasant lunchtime change in Paris with time to eat in a café near Gare de Lyon.

We are used to quizzical looks when we explain that we don't fly for holidays anymore, so it's been a pleasant surprise recently to discover how many people in church are on the same page as us and have also decided to give up the early morning airport run, in favour of Eurostar and a majestic train ride through vineyards, alps or European cities.

To find out how other people are approaching the question of travel, I asked a few people in the congregation a couple of questions: *Have you changed how you travel and holiday in the light of climate change? How do you feel about the changes you've made?*

Ruth and Richard Pyke:

Becoming increasingly aware of the impact of travel on climate change, we began to investigate train travel as a viable option for holidays. In 2019 we holidayed in Mull and the Western Highlands, and in order to cut down on the use of the car we took a train to Glasgow and then hired a car locally. In 2023, we wanted to travel to Rome and discovered a company who would plan the journeys and book hotels but still enable us to be independent travellers. They also provide back up support if trains are delayed or cancelled. This year we plan to take the train to the south of France and cross to Corsica by ferry, using the Corsican train to travel to three centres.

For local travel we use the bus (we are lucky to have the time and free bus passes!) and the train when possible. We do still use the car and unfortunately it is still a petrol car. Time and distance to see family often dictates against public transport but we do consider it wherever and whenever possible. We have also still flown when group travel demands it - but we are very concerned that this should not be the norm for our holidays.

We have enjoyed the less stressful atmosphere of stations rather than airports and discovered the

reality that the journey is as much part of the holiday as the destination. For example, on our holiday to Rome we also discovered Turin and a new area of Paris. We now feel more reluctant to travel by air, and enjoy the connections, logistics and scenery of train travel. We also enjoy the greater freedom to get up and move around as well as more space in the seats. We are learning to pack more lightly, but without the restrictions imposed by air travel.

Elizabeth Irving:

I have changed my travel in the light of climate change. 24 years ago, we moved to Abingdon from the Isle of Man. At that time, climate change wasn't really thought about, so we chose to live near to work for practical more than climate reasons. Twenty years of walking or cycling to a place of work less than a mile away in addition to the now-urgent climate crisis meant that when I changed jobs in 2022, I was determined to use public transport to travel to Oxford from Abingdon.

I have no regrets about that decision and have learned to integrate a daily walk into my bus commute and to take alternative buses / the train when roadworks or traffic dictate. I have learned to find a certain 'mindfulness' in my bus journey – time to think, listen to the radio and watch the seasons change as I go to and from work each day.

Our holiday travel is less clear cut. We have never really been a 'flying family,' tending to holiday in the UK. We took our first flight as a family in 2018, when the time-frame for attending a family wedding in France and attending school made it expedient. By 2022, though, I did make a conscious decision to take the train to two further weddings in France when time was no issue. Ironically, our family holiday destinations in 2023 and 2024 have both involved flights (to Stockholm and Athens), which prompted much more guilt than that first family flight. We had considered going by train, but time and expense for a family of 4 meant that we took the plane, but used public transport exclusively once there. I would think twice about holidaying somewhere far away by plane now, but I am fortunate to have already had the opportunity to travel to India last century without being racked by guilt for flying.

Our use of public transport continues: now empty-nesters, we are the proud owners of a two-together railcard.

Susan and Brian Read:

We have been increasingly reluctant to fly and given climate change decided a few years ago to stop altogether. Anyway, leisurely travelling by train is so much more enjoyable. We have now become quite familiar with the European rail network. For example, we have taken several interesting routes to and from Italy! Our daughter and family live in Sweden and we look forward to journeys there by trains and boat. However, not flying does mean that we can no longer visit Susan's sister in Canada. Instead, we take the opportunity to meet up whenever she and her husband take a package holiday to Europe. In summary, slow travel is a different mind-set, but rewarding.

Rob and Rosalind Rutherford

We are now trying hard to avoid air travel. Adventures are still possible! Two years ago we came away very impressed by Italian railways. This year, Rosalind mentioned Sicily so I consulted the oracle – the man in seat 61 https://www.seat61.com/ I think he suggests at least 4 different ways to get there by train. You can get to North Italy or Southern France in a day. We opted for a route that gave us a brief stopover in Nice before a picturesque train to Genoa and ferry to Palermo. I have to admit that it costs quite a lot more than flying but the changing landscape is wonderful. Continental trains are comfortable and significantly cheaper and with simpler pricing than in the UK. You can book them through various channels – https://www.thetrainline.com/ for example. If you want to buy a ticket at an Italian train station, the automatic machines are wonderfully easy to use.

Introducing the Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals

Jen Brown

Do you love animals? Do you have one or more pets (or companion animals) in your life? Are you concerned about the looming extinction crisis? Have you heard of ASWA?

The Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals (ASWA) is a charity that exists to, in the words of its strapline, "[put] animals on the agenda of the Christian church." ASWA encourages churches to include animals and animal welfare in their prayers, to think about the theology of animal welfare, and to promote kindness and care for our fellow creatures through, for example, marking Animal Welfare Sunday (first introduced by ASWA) and by holding pet blessing services. For several years now, ASWA has offered churches the opportunity to register as animal-friendly churches, in a scheme similar to A Rocha's Eco-Church project, and ASWA also selects a church each year to receive the Animal Friendly Church award. And that's not all that ASWA does! The society produces a magazine, *Animalwatch*, that comes out three times per year, with Bible studies, information about ASWA's activities, and articles about animal welfare issues. They also produce a range of resources that churches can use to help them include animals and animal welfare as part of their prayers, preaching, and study.

Like climate change and other environmental issues, animal welfare is a cause that is important to many people, both within and outside the Christian faith. People who have or have had pets will know how important the companionship of an animal can be, and the great joy and love that animals can bring to our lives. It is often through our pets, or companion animals, that people first realise that humans and non-human animals have many things in common, not least the ability to experience comfort and pain and emotions like delight and fear. From that realisation comes a growing awareness of the suffering that many animals in this world endure, often caused by humans. Christians who love animals and care about animal welfare can feel that the Church has little to nothing to say on the subject of animal suffering and animal welfare. And that's one of the reasons that ASWA does the work that it does.

Another reason that ASWA wants to help churches to raise the profile of animal welfare is that to do so is missional. To those who aren't Christians, showing that the Church has something positive to say about animals and animal welfare can be very attractive. It's also good theology. The Bible makes clear that God rejoices over and loves the whole of creation, not just humanity. At the end of Mark's Gospel, Jesus even tells his disciples to preach the good news (gospel) to the whole creation.

If you are interested in learning more about ASWA and their work, check out their website, www.aswa.org.uk.

Alternatively, have a word with me or with Chris, as we have both been involved with ASWA for many years.



Jen doing an animal blessing at ASWA's annual Animal Welfare Sunday service in 2023. Photo: Janet Murphy, ASWA.

The Bold Walking Group – a Continuing Story

Roger Cox

The Bold Walking Group is an Abingdon based church walking group which aims to walk on the last Wednesday of each month (except December).

Started by Derek and Christine Bold in September 1990 with a walk around Nuffield and Hailey for a small group of friends from All Saints Methodist Church. It went so well that the next month they led a similar walk around Christmas Common.

So was born the 'All Saints Rambling Club' as it was first known. Word soon got around and walkers from other Abingdon churches joined with typically 15-20 walkers on each walk.

Nowadays we usually have 12-15 walkers and sometimes a few ex-walkers come for lunch. It's an ecumenical group and members take turns to organise and lead the walks.

The 'Bold Walk recipe', which has endured through the years, is a country walk of 5-7 miles including a pub lunch. Sometimes there are stiles, sometimes steep hills, sometimes quite a lot of mud! Walks are anywhere within a 30-40 minutes' drive from Abingdon. Car sharing is encouraged – not least because of limited parking space at some destinations.

This June we had our 367th walk...from Minster Lovell to Crawley, returning along the River Windrush and which included a visit to Minster Lovell Hall ruins and St Kenelm's church.

Details of the walks are recorded on a Dropbox spreadsheet which includes the date and location of the walk, a GPX record of the route and the pub chosen for lunch. With this database it's easy to see where we've been before which helps in planning future walks.

If you might enjoy a walk with us, please contact Roger or Sue Cox.



Bold Walkers at Minster Lovell Hall

Trinitie Sunday

Lord, who hast form'd me out of mud, And hast redeem'd me through thy bloud, And sanctifi'd me to do good;

Purge all my sinnes done heretofore: For I confesse my heavie score, And I will strive to sinne no more.

Enrich my heart, mouth, hands in me, With faith, with hope, with charitie; That I may runne, rise, rest with thee.

George Herbert

This short and beautifully constructed poem by George Herbert has three verses of three lines each, and the final verse contains three sets of three—heart, mouth, hands / faith, hope, charity / run, rise, rest.

Alastair Fear

South Porch or Shop Window?

Eluned Hallas

St Nicolas' is located right on the market place, with a good passing footfall. We are also lucky enough to have a small 'window on the world' in the shape of our glazed south porch.

It started with a nativity scene one Christmas (all thanks to Andrew). After a few years we tried a Lent tableau – updated each week during lent, and culminating in a joyful Easter display. These seemed to be well received.

So this year, Sue has provided tableaux inspired by Ascension (tricky), Pentecost (dramatic) and the Trinity (thoughtful) – each with a short explanatory text. We may never know if they have any impact – but people do stop to look, so maybe a seed is planted.



Now we are thinking to future displays – Harvest? Creationtide? Christ the King?

Keep a look out as you walk past



Trinity

Threads Through the Bible

Sue Pemberton

I sometimes think that the most wonderful experiences in life are the ones which are totally unexpected and take us completely by surprise. In June a friend and I spent a few days in Cambridge and one day we decided to visit Ely. We of course went to the cathedral which is an amazing building famed for its Octagon Tower and offers perhaps the best audio guide I have ever experienced. However, a huge bonus was discovering the Threads Through the Bible exhibition.

Threads is an astounding collection of textile panels all created by the artist Jacqui Parkinson. It comprises 44 panels 3m high and up to 4m wide and using over 25 million stitches. It took her 10 years to complete (what, only 10 years, we gasped!) It is thought to be the largest textile project by a single artist and the largest textile project for 600 years. The predominant material used is silk and the designs are built up using paint, quilting, stitching and appliqué.

There are three parts to the exhibition. Threads Through Revelation was created between 2013-16 and comprises 14 panels illustrating the Book of Revelation. It was followed by Threads Through Creation, 12 panels telling the story of Creation in Genesis. These two have been exhibited separately and together for a number of years in various cathedrals and other large places of worship so you may well have seen them. The final part completed in 2023 is Threads Through the Cross, 19 panels illustrating key moments from the life of Christ. The three parts are being exhibited together for the first time this year as Threads Through the Bible.

The exhibition blew me away, I experienced so many emotions finding the panels beautiful, awe-inspiring, scary, challenging, moving, amusing, spiritual, vibrant, uplifting. The colour used in many is stunning and the level of detail incredible. I could have stared at just one of the panels for ages. Threads Through the Cross has the greatest number of human figures and at first glance these appeared quite basic. However, here too is detail and I was particularly struck by the work in the figures' hair.

The exhibition has been described as 'sharing God's love in 25 million stitches' It is hoped it will bring the key points of the Christian story to people of all ages and faiths. The three venues this year have used it as a basis for many and varied activities – a huge project in outreach.



Image taken by RR from the brochure

As we finished looking at the exhibition I realised it had not occurred to me to take a single photo. Sometimes it is more important to live the experience than to try and capture it. Where would one have started? Even looking at cards in the shop I felt that they could not do justice to seeing the panels live. However, you can see some images and download a brochure by going to Jacqui Parkinson's website https://www.jacqui-textile.com/bible/ There is also more information and further images on the websites of Liverpool and Ely cathedrals and Southwell Minster who have hosted the exhibition this year https://liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/threads-through-the-bible/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/event/threads/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/event/threads/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/event/threads/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/event/threads/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/event/threads/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/event/threads/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/event/threads/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/events/threads/ https://www.southwellminster.org/events/threads/

through-the-bible-exhibition. The closest venue to see Threads is Bath Abbey in early 2026 – make a note now to have an unforgettable day out.

The Parish Centre Garden

Photographs by David Bevington





It's not long now until the 2025 Ride + Stride in aid of the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust (OHCT). This year on Saturday 13th September, the event raises money for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, and above all is great fun!

Visit as many or as few churches as you wish by cycle or on foot, gaining sponsorship for each one from friends and family. Alternatively, a less energetic but equally important option is to sit in church and welcome Riders and Striders.

The OHCT gives grants to churches for repairs, and each of the three churches in the parish have benefitted from these grants in recent years. 50% of the money raised through sponsorship for the Ride + Stride goes to a church of the participant's choice, and 50% to the OCHT.

Full details can be found on the OHCT website https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/ and the church coordinators: Alexandra Green for St Helen's alexandra.green.sthelen@gmail.com, Louise Heffernan lheff@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk for St Michael's, and Eluned Hallas eluned@hallas.org.uk for St Nicolas will be happy to give further information, including lists of churches open on the day, suggested routes, maps, and sponsorship forms.

Please do join in and en	courage your friends and family as well!	Alexandra Green
Since it's 2025	A Number Quiz!	

Q1 Using only the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4, without repeating them in an answer, and using only addition, subtraction and multiplication, can you make all the numbers from 1 to 25?

Nick Hallas

Q2 Using only the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 exactly once each per answer, and using only addition, subtraction and multiplication, can you make the numbers from 1 to 25?

Q3 Using only the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 once each, can you make 2025?

Answers on page 15.

Events July, August, September

Compiled by Louise Heffernan

taize Prayer

St Helen's Church
Abingdon
Sunday 13th July
At 5.30pm

A time of Prayer, Reflection and Silence. Using the music and pattern of the Taizé Community

The next Taizé Prayer will be on Sunday 14th September at St Helen's Church Abingdon.



Michael & Alj Angels Church

Cream Tea

St Michael & All Angels' Church, Park Road



Saturday 26th July 2.30 – 4.30 pm

Tea/coffee with scone/cake £5
Proceeds to church funds
All welcome

Circle Dancing Session St Michael's Church 11 am on Thursday 24th July.

No prior experience/partner needed. Tea and coffee will be provided.

No circle dancing or Moving into Stillness during August.



ST NICOLAS' CHURCH EVENSONG

There will be a special sung Evensong on Thursday 21 August at 7pm to commemorate John Blacknall, to celebrate the restoration of the monument, and to give thanks for the generous donations which helped fund the work. The Preacher will be the Rt Revd Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester, and the service will be (as far as possible) based on texts and music likely to have been known by John Blacknall.



Cream Teas

St Michael & All Angels' Church

Saturday August 23rd 2.30 – 4.30pm

Saturday September 13th 2.30 – 4.30pm





Saturday September 13th in all our Parish Churches



2nd & 3rd August

10 to 5

Free entry

PAINTINGS & POTTERY

An exhibition of the work of Margaret Horton, artist Sheena Lee,

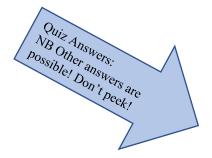
Ceramicist.
Originals, prints, ceramic pieces, cards
for sale

St Ethelwold's 30 E. St Helen St Abingdon OX14 5EB





Margaret Horton (artist) and Sheena Lee (ceramicist) invite you to their exhibition on 2nd/3rd August in the River room and garden of St Ethelwold's House, East St Helen St, Abingdon. There will be lots of paintings, prints, cards, creative ceramics and jewellery to look at and buy. It will be open from 10 to 5 each day. Do drop by and support us as 15% of all takings will go to St Ethelwold's, who have just launched a campaign to raise £140,000 to fund necessary repairs to their lovely old building.



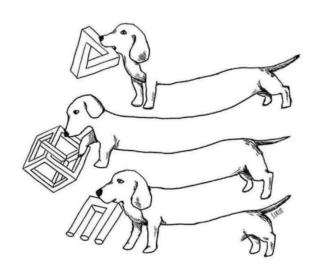
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$(1-4)\times \xi \times \zeta$	18
$2+(\xi\times(1+1))$	LI
$4 \times (1 - \xi + 2)$	91
$1 + 2 + (3 \times 4)$	SI
$1 \times 2 + (3 \times 4)$	14
$1 - (4 \times \xi) + 2$	εī
4 × £ × (1 - 2)	15
$1+(2\times3)+1$	ΙΙ
1+2+3+4	10
$1 \times 2) + 3 + 4$	6
1 - 4 + 5 + 2	8
$2-(1-4)\times \xi$	L
1 + 3 + 4 - 2	9
$(2 - \xi + 4) \times 1$	ς
1 + 2 + 4 - 3	7
$(\xi - 4 + 4) \times 1$	3
1 + 2 + 3 - 4	7
$(1 - 2) \times (\xi - 1)$	Ţ

65

 $\vec{O3}~\text{I}\times 3_{\text{t}}\times 2_{\text{5}}$

бI



Cartoon from Rob's Facebook feed

Useful Weblinks:

Services: for the latest news see the Parish Website: https:abingdonparish.org.uk

for Church of England links: services, daily readings etc https://www.churchofengland.org/

FOOD BANK. The Abingdon Foodbank is still very busy and anxious to keep up the support. Northcourt Road (Christ Church) is open to receive donations on Tuesday and Friday mornings between 9.30 am and 1.00 pm. The foodbank also operates from Preston Road Community Centre. Donations are welcome there too between 12.00 and 2.30pm on Wednesdays. You can also donate money by sending a cheque made out to *North Abingdon PCC Christ Church*, clearly marked *'for Food Bank'* or via the Foodbank website

https://abingdon.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/ or the Parish office has details if you want to donate via online banking.

Finally, from Dave Walker:

RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

TEN APPROACHES



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Thanks to all contributors and to you, the readers.

The next issue will be published on September 14th - ideas and contributions to Candle@abingdonparish.org.uk