

Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership

*Six thriving and growing churches, making Christ known in
our area of Milton Keynes.*



November 2025 Newsletter

Welcome to the November edition of the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership Newsletter, (also see website at www.stantonbury.net).

Partnership News

Pastoral News

November 2025

Season of Remembrance

*'The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our refuge'
Psalm 46 v 7*



I'm sure you've noted the art installation this year in Portsmouth, 'Standing with Giants' which depicts the 1400+ allied Soldiers, under British command, who died on one single day - D-Day - 6th June 1944. It is providing a sombre backdrop this year to our annual season of remembrance in the nation and our churches. For me this always includes reference to Psalm 46, the repetition of the verse above and the 'Dambusters' theme to which those words have been wonderfully set.

The season begins of course with the increasingly poignant 'All Souls' Sunday being marked this year on November 2nd. A number of our churches are hosting services that afternoon allowing those grieving a chance to gather, to pray and light candles in remembrance. The theme then moves through that week to Remembrance Sunday itself - November 9th - with the two minutes silence and laying wreaths once again on our war memorials. I'm particularly again joining in and leading prayers for the afternoon service at the Clocktower in New Bradwell that day, with the Royal British Legion procession accompanied by the Bradwell Silver Band.

Let us remember throughout that in times of war and peace, in times of grieving and regret - whenever they befall us - the Lord is there and his presence can inspire our minds and hearts, as a true refuge, to walk through these difficult valleys. May his presence both inspire and uphold us all this year.

With every blessing

Rev Phil Dunning

**SEP Baptist Minister and Vision Enabler
...Acting Ministry team leader**

Letter for Remembrance Sunday & All Souls' Day

A Reflection from Your Minister

As we gather this month for Remembrance Sunday and All Souls' Day, our hearts are drawn to memories both collective and personal. We stand together as a parish family, honouring those who gave their lives in the service of our nation. Across our land, poppies bloom on lapels and wreaths are laid at silent memorials. We pause to remember the brave men and women who, in the darkest of hours, bore the heavy burdens of war for the sake of our freedom. Their sacrifice is etched into the fabric of our nation and our lives today are built upon their courage.

But remembrance does not end at the edge of public commemoration. All Souls' Day invites us to a quieter, more intimate remembering: those dear to us whom we still love in our hearts but see no more. In the stillness of our church and the quiet corners of our homes, we recall family, friends, and loved ones whose laughter, wisdom and sacrifice shaped our lives. Their absence is felt keenly, yet their legacy endures in our hearts and the lives they touched.

As Christians, we do not grieve without hope. The cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ assure us that death does not have the final word. For those who believe, death is a passage, not a conclusion, it is a horizon and not a wall. In Christ we are promised that life conquers death, that joy rises from sorrow, and that love endures beyond the grave. As we light candles and lay wreaths, may we hold fast to this hope: that those we have lost rest in God's eternal embrace, and one day we shall meet again in the fullness of His kingdom. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and life." John 11:25

May God's peace sustain us and comfort us in these days of remembrance.

Sam Muthuveloe

{Cross & Stable & Willen}

Partnership wide services 2025 for your diaries

Please put this date in your diary. There is one more in 2025; November 30th, at St Andrew's Church in Great Linford. This is a timely service, as it's also St. Andrew's Day.

'MED Group' - Mission, Evangelism, Discipleship

The latest notes for the last MED group meeting are available in all our churches, and reflect the themes we discussed and prayed for on 6th October. We were drawing together particularly thoughts for Advent and Christmas and considering how our advertising needs to be stronger. Look out for the upcoming joint churches poster, confirming special services in our venues over the festive period.

Next meeting - Monday 19th January 2026 - hybrid, live venue TBA.

Rev Phil Dunning

Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership Council

The next SEP Council meeting will be 7.30p.m. on Thursday 27th November at Christ Church, Stantonbury. We will welcome Revd Dr. Kofi and Revd Peterson to this meeting. Can all the Chairs, Church Wardens and Officers ensure their congregation is represented there.

The Ecumenical Confirmation Service is at 6:00p.m. on 16th November at The Servant King Church in the Watling Valley Partnership.

Helen's SEP admin. phone number is 01908382458 and her email is sburyepadm@gmail.com. Our hope is that Helen will remove some of the burden of administrative tasks from the shoulders of our ministers and officers. We can all help with that by contacting Helen with any admin or bookings, in the first instance, instead of our ministers and officers. Helen will then feedback any bookings to our Team Leader, Revd. Phil Dunning who will be able to decide who the best Minister is to take any service or office forward. My continued thanks to our six volunteers who still answer this phone every day.

EVENTS on website

Helen is devising a way forward, with Paul Brookman of Bradwell Church, to make it easier to check for events at each church. This will help our congregation members, who maybe can't make the Bible Study group closest, but would like to go to one on a day or time better suited to them.

Armistice Day in Milton Keynes

Everyone is welcome to the annual service at the Milton Keynes Rose for Armistice Day on 11th November with silence at 11.00 followed by wreath laying.

Poppies are already on sale in preparation for Remembrance Sunday, please let all churches know if you are selling them this year.

God Bless

Sharron, Lay Chair of SEPC

Our Church Services and Events

Bradwell Church, St Lawrence

Sunday 2nd at 10:30 **Holy Communion**

Led by Rev Phil Dunning

and at 15:00 **Bereavement Service**

Led by Rev Phil Dunning

Sunday 9th at 10:30 **Morning Worship for
Remembrance Sunday**

Led by Mike Morris

Sunday 16th at 10:30 **Morning Worship**

Led by Rev Jenny Boxwell

Sunday 23rd at 10:30 **Holy Communion**

Led by Rev Peterson Feital

Sunday 30th at 09:30 **Morning Worship**

Led by Rev Phil Dunning



Most services are live streamed to You Tube. The You Tube link is @BradwellChurch MiltonKeynes. Simply go to You Tube, search for this and click the red live button just before the service begins.

Gardening Club is on its winter break.

Bell Ringing practice every Wednesday at 19:45. Beginners welcome.

Christ Church, Stantonbury

Sunday 2nd at 10:30 Morning Worship

Led by Rev Jenny and John Boxwell

Sunday 9th at 10:30 Morning Worship

Led by Rev Phil Dunning

Sunday 16th at 10:30 Morning Worship

Led by Rev David Nash

Sunday 23rd at 10:30 Morning Worship with Communion + Virtual Communion

Led by Rev Stephanie Hibberd

Sunday 30th at 11:00 Joint SEP Service

at St Andrew's Church, Great Linford. No service at Christ Church

All Sunday services are live-streamed to Christ Church's Facebook page, using the link below. You don't need to belong to Facebook in order to follow the service.

Streaming starts from 10.25 <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchmk/>

There is also a Christ Church website at www.christchurchmk.org.uk which has the service details on it, and which is updated each week

Saturday 15th at 09:30 Coffee and cake morning

All donations received go to Christ Church coffee money charity.

Morning Drop-In every Wednesday 10.00 – 11.30.

Meets at Church, refreshments and a quiz are available.

Under 5's meet every Thursday in **Term time only** from 10:00 to 11:30 in the Hall.



Cross and Stable, Downs Barn

Sunday 2nd at 11:00 Signed Holy Communion

Led by Rev Peter Green

Sunday 9th at 11:00 Holy Communion

Led by Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe

Sunday 16th at 11:00 Holy Communion

Led by Rev Phil Dunning

Sunday 23rd at 10:00 Family Breakfast Club

Led by Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe

Sunday 30th at 11:00 Joint SEP Service

at St Andrew's Church, Great Linford

Bell Ringing practice every Friday at 19:30.

Services are live-streamed on Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85922248518?pwd=Tm4vd00wancwVk52cCtqNm5tMWRZdz09>

Meeting ID: 859 2224 8518 Passcode: 830413



Friday at 2:00 pm - Prayer time & Bible reflection on Zoom

This lasts around 45 mins - do join us from wherever you are on Zoom!

Please contact Sue Baines for the Link on suejbaines@gmail.com

Chatterbox MK every Wednesday from 10:30 to 12:30. All Welcome - tea - coffee - cakes - meet and chat. Come and meet others.

Please pray for the **Care Homes in Neath Hill & Downs Barn** as we conduct a Church Service and Holy Communion on **Sunday 23rd at 3.00pm and 4.00pm** respectively. Remember the frail, elderly, the caring staff & the concerned families as we minister God's love and grace.

St. Andrews', Great Linford

Sunday 2nd at 10:00 All Souls Service

Led by Rev Peterson Feital

Wednesday 5th at 10:00 Wednesday Communion

Led by Rev Prof John Beazley

Sunday 9th at 10:00 Remembrance Service

Led by Colin Taylor LLM

Sunday 16th at 10:00 Holy Communion

Led by Rev Prof John Beazley

Sunday 23rd at 10:00 Holy Communion

Led by Rev Phil Dunning

Sunday 30th at 11:00 Joint SEP Service / St Andrew's Day



Morning Services are live-streamed on Facebook using this link:

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

Morning Worship every Wednesday at 08:30 in Church. All are welcome to attend in church or on our Facebook page.

Bell Ringing practice every Tuesday at 19:30.

St Andrews 1st Wednesday Seminar Group

You would be most welcome to join us on the first Wednesday of each month and participate in the discussion, which usually starts at about 11am. Please email greatlinford@gmail.com if you would like information on the current study topic. **John Beazley.**

5 WAYS CAFÉ at St. Andrews' Church

11.00am to 1.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month

Join us to enjoy good company, refreshments, a selection of board games, Pete on the piano and, for those wanting a bit of exercise, an accompanied walk in Great Linford Manor Park. Coffee & Craft with local artist Jane Charles will be back again on 2nd Tuesdays from April to September and we are hopeful of further dates – you can email

greatlinford@googlemail.com for the latest information. All are welcome to 5Ways - we aim to be dementia friendly.

St. James', New Bradwell

Sunday 2nd at 09:30

Led by Rev Steve Barnes

and at 15.00

Led by Helen Rouse LLM

Sunday 9th at 09:30

Led by Helen Rouse LLM

Sunday 16th at 09:30

Led by Rev Phil Dunning

Sunday 23rd at 09:30

Led by Rev Dr Mary Cotes

Sunday 30th at 09:30

Led by Rev David Nash

Holy Communion

Bereavement Service

**Morning Worship for Remembrance
Sunday**

Holy Communion

Baptist Communion

Baptist Communion



Services are live-streamed most weeks to St James' Facebook page at [St James Church NB | Facebook](#)

Every Saturday from 10:00 to 12:00 and Wednesday from 09:30 to 11:30, St James' hosts a Coffee Morning.

Visit St James' website at www.stjamesnewbradwell.org.uk for more information.

St. Mary Magdalene, Willen

Sunday 2nd at 09:30

Led by Margaret Moakes LLM

and at 15:00

Led by Rev Peterson Feital

Sunday 9th at 09:30

Led by Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe

Sunday 16th at 09:30

Led by Rev Peterson Feital

Sunday 23rd at 09:30

Led by Rev Phil Dunning

Sunday 30th at 09:30

Led by Rev Kofi Tekyi-Ansah

All Age Morning Worship

All Souls Memorial and Thanksgiving

Holy Communion for Remembrance

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Holy Communion



The monthly communion service at **Oaktree Court, Portland Drive** will be at **2.30 pm on November 6th**. Anyone who would like to join us, would be welcome. Please speak to Margaret Moakes.

T.T.T.T (Third Tuesday at Twelve Thirty) Pop along to St Mary Magdalene Church Willen and be entertained by **Fadin' Shoes** on **Tuesday November 18th**, 12.30 - 1.15. Pop in during your lunch break. Walking the dog or just passing by, stay for a while or the whole 45 minutes. Complimentary cake and coffee. Donations to Church Restoration & Hooke Heritage Project.

Future events

Saturday 22nd November

10:00-15:00

St James Christmas Fayre

Come along and enjoy festive stalls, Children's games, crafts and refreshments!

Tuesday 6th January 2026

19:00 'An evening for the SEP with Bishop Dave'...Confirmed
at St Andrews Church, Great Linford.

The Bishop of Buckingham is spending an evening with us in the SEP specifically to show his support and seek to answer questions in our current ministry situation. Please put this date in your diaries now, so that you don't miss out on hearing from Bishop Dave on how the Diocese can assist our SEP at this time.
...the event is free, and open to all members.

Role Huddles

Across the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership there are groups of people with shared interests, abilities, knowledge or talents, building links between our six congregations.

These role huddles include those with an interest in:

- ❖ Eco-church
- ❖ IT, sound systems, live streaming
- ❖ Providing music for services
- ❖ Communication, social media
- ❖ Pastoral Care
- ❖ Care of our church buildings

These are very informal groups, only meeting if needed, but able to offer support. If you are interested in finding out more, if you feel your congregation needs help with any of these, or if you could offer help, please contact me and I will put you in touch with the group.

Many thanks, Irene irene@tfarr.plus.com

External Ecumenical News

We want to plan for our future in faith and church and ministry. If anyone reading this is thinking their future may lie in any level of ministry, please speak to Rev Phil or drop me a line.



News from Diocese of Oxford

Resurgence of faith examined

James Wood, Discipleship Enabler (Buckingham) and Diocesan Young Adults Specialist, appeared this week on the Roots for Churches podcast.

James talked about the resurgence of Christian faith among young adults, particularly Gen Z.

[Listen to the podcast.](#)

Archdeacon of Buckingham

We seek an experienced and pastorally gifted priest with a vibrant faith, strategic insight and effective organisational skills who will support the diocesan 'Common Vision' for a more contemplative, compassionate and courageous Church for the sake of God's world.

Our new Archdeacon will join a dynamic, mission focussed Buckingham Area Team, as well as a forward thinking and creative Bishop's Staff Team led by the Bishop of Oxford.

We are praying for an Archdeacon who will:

Be an inspiring spiritual leader who encourages the people of God to live out the Gospel in everyday life.

Have a mature and intuitive faith that understands challenges, is unafraid in the midst of them and acts with pastoral sensitivity.

Undertake specialist roles across the diocese, including in our governance mechanisms and in achieving our strategic priorities.

Build excellent relationships across the different communities of the Archdeaconry, regularly visiting and sharing in the life and worship of local parishes, chaplaincies, community projects and schools.

[Apply online](#)

Consultant – Project Manager, Establishing Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) Network

The Diocese of Oxford is seeking an experienced consultant/project manager to lead the establishment of a new peer-led Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) Network which aims to strengthen safeguarding structures in parishes.

The project manager will lead the co-design, pilot and roll-out phases; manage evaluation; and ensure a smooth handover to the diocesan safeguarding team.

Estimated 55 days of work between January to December 2026. Location is hybrid, with travel within the Diocese of Oxford.

[Find out more and apply](#)

News from the Regional Central Baptist Union

Almost 70 over-60s were treated to a feast of activities, all-day refreshments and fun at September's 'Holiday at Home' event at the Water Eaton Church Centre in Milton Keynes, arranged by members of Spurgeon Baptist Church and St Frideswide's C of E



The event was first inspired three years ago by Jenny Davis, the Parish Nurse, and this year had the theme of 'Under the Sea' complete with suspended models of a giant whale, shark, fishes, seaweed and jelly fishes, arranged around a shipwreck, a treasure chest, and sound effects.

Activities included a sing-a-long, a humorous but meaningful Jonah sketch, craft workshops, film shows, chair exercises and many other activities.

Lunch was generous individual portions of fresh fish and chips, provided by [CrossLinks](#), a community charity set up by the two fellowships.

News from the Methodist Church

Something exciting is happening in the Methodist Church

God is calling ordinary people to begin new forms of church, and we're investing millions of pounds over the next seven years to make that a reality. All churches are invited to start NPNPs as part of their ministry. These new communities may not need funding, or may be funded in different ways through district, circuit or connexional funds.

Join our [New Places for New People](#) movement.

New Christian communities for people with questions about life and faith who aren't connected to existing churches.

We're deeply committed to [Church at the Margins](#)

CaM is a core specialised priority stream within the NPNP, receiving 60% of connexional funding for districts and circuits. We're committed to nurturing new forms of church in low-income communities, amongst and led by people experiencing poverty.

Thank you for reading this. If anyone would like to take over any of the above research information, please get in touch. I would be most appreciative of the help.

May we all share our Harvest gifts with others this month with gratitude for the creation of a bountiful creation.

Sharron, Chair of SEP CIO Council

News from Churches Together in Milton Keynes

Our strapline is:

One in Christ Jesus, engaged in God's mission, empowered by the Spirit.

There are far too many items on the website to list, so please take a look for yourself at the website: [Churches Together in Milton Keynes \(ctmk.church\)](http://ctmk.church)

News from the [Partnership Green Champions](#)

[Eco Tip for November 2025](#)

[Eco-friendly tips for Christmas](#)

We all love to relax, recharge and enjoy ourselves over the festive period. But who doesn't feel a little frustrated by unwanted gifts, wasted food and mountains of wrapping paper in the bin? Small changes can make all the difference in reducing our environmental footprint.

1. Choose a gift that lasts

This Christmas, purchase items that the recipient really wants with value, purpose and meaning. Consider choosing one gift for the whole family, or friendship group, that everyone can enjoy together. Or make memories with an experience instead. Shop locally supporting small and independent businesses.

2. Choose handmade gifts, cards, crackers and decorations!

Put some time in by making your own and see how meaningful it can be! Or buy second hand - there's something quite nostalgic about pre-loved Christmas decorations. Charity and second hand shops can also be great place for unique gift ideas.

3. Switch to eco-friendly wrapping paper

Did you know Brits use 227,000 miles of wrapping paper every year? Opt-out of the glittery, un-recyclable paper this year and opt-in to brown paper, recycled and recyclable paper or even fabric wrapping using Furoshiki folding.

4. Cut food (and packaging) waste

A scary amount of food waste is created at Christmas, equivalent to 4.2 million plates of Christmas dinner going straight into the bin! Take steps to reduce your food waste by planning your food carefully, freezing leftovers and only buy what you will eat. Or go meat free with a tasty nut roast or veggie alternative.

5. Enjoy time together!

Overall, nothing is more important at Christmas than the people we spend it with. Consider how you can support people in the local community to [combat loneliness](#), and enjoy rest, some wonderful walks in nature and quality time with loved ones this Christmas.

Thank you to Bournemouth University for these tips. For their full list see <https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/about/sustainability/sustainability-stories/12-tips-sustainable-christmas>

I hope that you have found this and previous newsletters interesting and useful. If there is anything else you think would make it better or find any glaring omissions, please let your congregation's newsletter editor, Sharron or me know.

*The deadline for information to go into **December's** issue is **Tuesday 25th November** to allow me to get it to you in time to send out before the beginning of **December**.*

John

John Porter sepnewsletter9@gmail.com

*Finally for this month's **Last Word** I'm handing over to Rev Dr Sam Muthuveloe for his **Tribute to Canon Julian Reindorp**.*

In Tribute to Canon Julian Reindorp –[22/06/1944 to 14/09/2025]

A Life of Faith, Friendship, and Unwavering Service

It is a rare privilege in this life to journey alongside someone whose presence illuminates the path, whose wisdom steadies uncertain steps, and whose encouragement is an unfailing source of strength. For forty years, Canon Julian Reindorp was not only my close friend and confidant, but also my spiritual mentor and guide—a true encourager whose faith and compassion knew no bounds.

Spiritual Mentorship and Personal Encouragement

From our earliest acquaintance, Julian recognised in me a calling I had yet to fully understand myself. His gentle but persistent encouragement helped me discern my vocation and pursue ordination in the Church of England. He never hesitated to offer a listening ear, a timely word of advice, or a prayer spoken in faith. It was Julian's unwavering belief in the work of the Spirit and the unique potential within each individual that made him such a remarkable mentor—not only to me, but to countless others whose lives he touched.

Champion of Mission Work in Sri Lanka and South India

Julian's vision of the Church extended far beyond parish boundaries. As Chairman of Hope Outreach Missions UK, he played a pivotal role in supporting and enabling extensive mission work in Sri Lanka, especially during the darkest days of the civil war and the devastation wrought by the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami. His leadership was both practical and visionary; he mobilised resources, inspired volunteers, and galvanised hope in the midst of hardship. Through his efforts, life-saving aid and spiritual support reached some of the most vulnerable communities at their point of greatest need.

Charity Leadership: Orphanages, Clinics, and Church Restoration

Julian's commitment to the people of Sri Lanka was lived out in tangible acts of service. Under his guidance, Hope Outreach Missions UK helped build orphanages for children left destitute by conflict, established free medical clinics delivering vital healthcare to those with nowhere else to turn, and restored churches damaged by years of war. He was present at the formal opening and dedication of an Anglican Church in a Hindu enclave in the North of Sri Lanka a deeply Buddhist country. These projects were not merely charitable endeavours, but expressions of Julian's deep conviction that human dignity and the love of Christ must be made manifest in practical ways.

Influence on Ordination and Ministry

On a personal note, I owe a debt of gratitude to Julian for his influence on my own journey into ministry. His example of servant leadership, humility, and openness to the Spirit shaped my understanding of what it means to serve God's people. It was Julian who stood by me during my ordination, offering prayers and encouragement that remain a wellspring of strength in my own pastoral life.

Service at St Andrew's Church, Great Linford

Julian's tenure as Vicar at St Andrew's Church, Great Linford, from 1983 to 1992, was marked by vibrancy and growth. His charismatic preaching, infectious enthusiasm, and genuine love for people saw the congregation flourish during the late 1980s and early 1990s. He welcomed all—befriending people from every walk of life and nurturing a sense of belonging and purpose. The church became not just a place of worship, but a thriving community hub thanks to his inspired leadership. His trademark red scooter

and red helmet was a comfort to the locals who recognised that their Vicar was on his rounds.

Legacy and Lasting Impact

Julian Reindrp's legacy endures in the lives he transformed, the communities he empowered, and the faith he so passionately lived. His warmth, generosity, and steadfast friendship have left an indelible mark on my heart, as I know they have on many others. He taught me the true meaning of service, the depth of compassion, and the unshakeable power of hope.

Conclusion: Personal Gratitude and Farewell

As I reflect on four decades of friendship and shared ministry, I give thanks for Julian's presence in my life. He was a beacon of encouragement, a source of inspiration, and a steadfast companion on the journey of faith. Though we now bid him farewell, the seeds of hope and love he sowed will continue to bear fruit for generations to come. Rest in peace, dear friend. Your legacy shines on.

Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe

[Minister Cross Stable Church Downs Barn & St Mary Magdalene Willen]