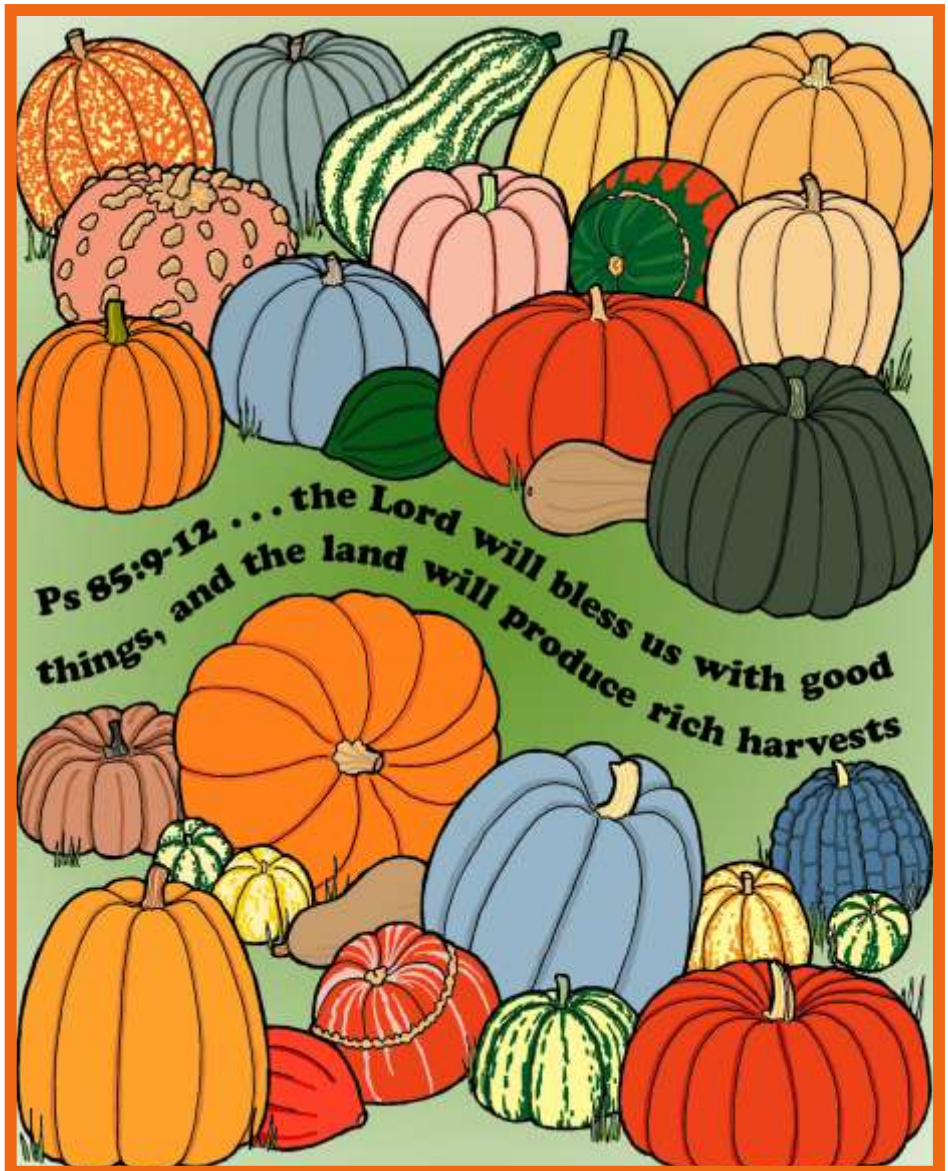


St. Giles Church Exhall Parish Magazine



**Ps 85:9-12 ... the Lord will bless us with good
things, and the land will produce rich harvests**

October 2025—50p

St Giles' Parish Church, Exhall - www.stgileschurchexhall.info

The Parish Office at St Giles' Church Hall, St Giles' Road, Ash Green, CV7 9GZ

Telephone/answerphone: 024 7636 8008

Office email: office@stgileschurchexhall.info

The Parish Office is open Tuesday 10 am-2 pm, Wednesday 12 noon-4 pm,

Thursday 10 am-4 pm

Sunday Worship

**Please see the worship pattern
for October on page 7**

Other Useful Information

Ministry to the sick and housebound

We are always pleased to visit, at home or in hospital. But we need to know who would welcome a visit. Contact the office on (024) 76 368008.

Christenings and Weddings

Enquiries should be made to the office (024) 76 368008.

Bereavement and funerals

We will always take funerals for anyone in the parish, either at church or at the crematorium. Burials are performed in St Giles' Meadow. Enquiries should be made to the office (024) 76 368008.

The Bereavement Drop-In is open on alternate Thursdays in the Small Hall. Please contact Sue Barnes on 07946 051122.

Foodbank

Help is now available through the Bedworth Community Grocery,
The Harbour Centre,
12 Congreve Walk, Bedworth CV12 8LY
Tel: 02477 331511 Bedworth@community.grocery.org.uk

New members of any age are always welcome at the following:

Bell ringing

Thursdays 7.30-9pm (except 3rd Thursday)

Choir

Fridays at 7pm.

Worship Band

Wednesdays at 7.30pm.

Front Cover : Parish Pump

Back Cover: Bazaar Poster

Any news, reflections, stories, pictures, jokes or brainteasers to share within these pages? I'd love to have them! Please email them to **tinawatk1ns@btinternet.com** or drop them into the parish office or "W" pigeonhole in church.

The next magazine will cover November and the copy deadline date is **Sunday 19th October**.

Welcome to your October magazine

This month we have our Table Top Sale on 11th in aid of the local Air Ambulance and we're also looking forward to an All Hallows' Eve party in the main hall, which should be lots of fun. Details of both can be found on the following pages.

We have made the difficult decision to increase the price of the magazine, starting at the beginning of 2026. Further details are on page 6 and we hope that you understand why the increase is going ahead.



Don't forget that the clocks go back by one hour at 2 am on Sunday 26th October!

***With best wishes
Tina Watkins***

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St Giles' Magazine was first published in April 1898 and is now in its 127th year.

With love from the Vicar

Dear Friends

As we move into the 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness' to quote John Keats' classic autumn poem, I wonder if you have a favourite poem of your own?

Through this autumn season, both in our home groups and in our evening services on alternate weeks at 5 pm, we are placing a special spotlight on the poetry, prayer and hymn book of the Bible that is the Psalms – an excellent read for the autumn or indeed any season of the year.

The Psalms have such beauty, both in their form and in their content. Probably the most famous Psalm of all, and the most popular, is Psalm 23 – 'The Lord is my Shepherd'. Across the whole collection of 150 Psalms though, we find the complete range of human emotion expressed, from the highest heights of praise, adoration and thanksgiving to the lowest depths of despair, as well as everything in between.

The Psalms have been described as a mirror to the soul, reflecting our innermost thoughts and feelings in an honest way before God. Sometimes we may feel as if we have to be very 'polite' and mind our Ps and Qs when relating to God, but the Psalms remind us that God is big enough, loving enough and gracious enough to take on board the rawest of our emotions, our doubts, our sense of anger and injustice and the most difficult of our questions, including Jesus' own cry from the cross, taken directly from the Psalms, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

Often in the Psalms we can notice a move from disorientation to reorientation as a wider and deeper perspective comes into view. The Psalms are helpful and honest speech at a time when we are seeing an increase in hate speech and misinformation. The Psalms are examples of freedom of speech and expression used wisely and well, leading to inner transformation and renewal as a first priority.

So why not dip into and discover more of the Psalms this autumn? Join us at a 5 pm service to sing the psalms and discover more of their message and meaning. And, who knows, you may even be inspired to write or to sing your own Psalm – here's one I found for autumn and harvest by Tanya Marlow, inspired originally by Psalm 104—Praise the Lord.



Praise the God of summer and bloom;
Praise the God of autumn and shrivelled leaves.
He calls the dying foliage to glory and colour;
The trees to open their palms and reveal their weighty fruit.
The squirrels scurry and gather,
The birds squabble in the trees,
And beneath a carpet of red and yellow and brown
There are ants and slugs making stores for winter in the secrets of the undergrowth .
The Lord presides over the scurrying and the gathering;
He watches over the floating of the dying leaf as it falls to the ground in splendour.
The Lord is there in the bringing in and the letting go,
The clustering and the unfurling.
He breathes his goodness into my harvesting and into my yielding.
He is still light as the nights lengthen and the shadows come.
Praise the Lord, the God of autumn
Praise Him, the writer of all our days.
With every blessing

Gail xx



Magazine Price Increase

Dear Readers

The price of our Parish Magazine has been 50p per copy, or £5 per year for those who pay annually, for over 10 years. After a great deal of thought, we have decided that the time has come to increase the price and from the first edition next year, in February 2026, the magazine will cost £1 per copy. We do feel this still offers good value for money and will help to cover the cost of production—we have been producing the magazine at a loss for some time and the price of paper, ink etc. continues to rise.

Thank you for your support in purchasing our magazine, it is much appreciated. We hope that you understand the reasons for the increase and continue to enjoy reading it as we move into next year.

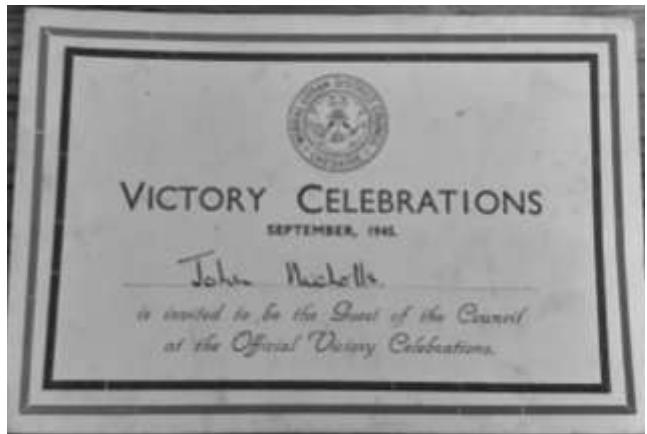
Best wishes

Tina Watkins on behalf of St Giles Church

A special invitation

Last month we reported on the Chatty Crafters' coffee morning held to celebrate VJ Day and to raise funds for Alzheimer's Research. This month we can share with you a very special invitation sent to John Nicholls, a member of our Church family, to attend the official victory

celebrations held in



September 1945. Understandably, John has kept the original invitation all these years as a precious memento of that auspicious day.

Thanks for sharing, John!

SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2025

Morning Prayer, 8.00 am Monday—Thursday			
Wednesday 1st October	<u>10.30 am</u> Communion		
Sunday 5th October	<u>10.00 am</u> Communion	<u>11.45 am</u> Sunday Celebration	<u>5.00 pm</u> Evening Prayer
Sunday 12th October	<u>8.00 am</u> Communion	<u>10.00 am</u> Communion	<u>11.45 am</u> Sunday Celebration
Sunday 19th October	<u>10.00 am</u> Communion	<u>11.45 am</u> Sunday Celebration	<u>5.00 pm</u> Evening Prayer
Sunday 26th October	<u>8.00 am</u> Communion	<u>10.30 am</u> Joint Service of Holy Communion	

At a Glance - October 2025

Thursday 2nd	4.00 pm	Youth Impact (weekly term time only)
Tuesday 7th	1.00 pm	Over 50s—Main Hall (weekly)
	7.00 pm	Compline (weekly)
	7.30 pm	Vicarage Home Group
Weds 8th	10.30 am	Chatty Crafters—Small Hall (weekly apart from first Wednesday)
	11.00 am	Harvest at the Haven
Thursday 9th	2.30 pm	Bereavement Drop-in—Small Hall (fortnightly)
	12.00 noon	Table Top Sale—Main Hall
Saturday 11th	10.30 am	Service at Bede Village/Richmond Lodge
Tuesday 14th	2.00 pm	Service at Fairfield Care Home
Thursday 16th	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union—Small Hall
Sunday 26th	3.00 pm	All Hallows' Eve Party—Main Hall
	2.30 pm	Sunday Service at Bede Village



Exhall Mothers' Union

At our September meeting we welcomed a representative from what many of us will remember as The Gideons but is now renamed as "Good News for Everyone". The organisation was founded in 1899 and changed its name in 2021; one of their aims is to distribute Bibles and New Testaments to hotels, schools, hospitals and prisons.

We enjoyed an informative talk about the origins of the organisation, the difficulties which occurred during COVID and how the organisation is now moving forward.

MU World Wide

We are thankful for our dedicated members who are working to bring stability, provisions and hope to individuals, families and communities devastated by the earthquake in Myanmar in March.

As we continue to support the people affected, we invite you to join us in prayer for the survivors and the volunteers bringing light in the darkest moments.

Most merciful God, in the midst of disaster we look to you in hope and trust, acknowledging that there is much in life beyond our understanding. Accept our compassion for the suffering: bless those who are working for their relief: show us what we can do to share in their task, as servants of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Advance Notice. This year Mothers' Union will be holding their Diocesan Advent Carol Service at St Giles on Monday 1st December at 11.00am, followed by refreshments in the main Hall.

**Our next meeting will be on 16th October, when we will enjoy a craft evening at 7.30pm in the Small Hall.
Everyone is welcome.**



**Saturday 11th October
12.00 noon—3.00 pm
St Giles Church Hall
CV7 9GZ**

**A great selection of stalls plus hot
and cold food and drinks**



**£8 per table - contact Sue Sullivan
on 07553 324974 to book**



Donations of bric-a-brac welcome

**All proceeds from the hire of tables and sale of
refreshments go to the local Air Ambulance**

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

**Saturday 29th November
12.00 noon—3.30 pm
(See back page for poster)**

If you would like to donate goods or prizes:

CAKES ON THE DAY

BOXES OF CHOCOLATES

BOTTLES OF DRINK

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Andy Clark—07584 372704

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WORDSEARCH

To St Luke, whose feast-day is 18th October, we owe a beautifully written gospel as well as the Book of Acts. He was a Greek physician and faithful travelling companion to St Paul. Under house arrest near the end of his life Paul noted, 'only Luke is with me'. Luke's gospel focuses on the compassion of Christ, and offers us moving parables, such as the Good Samaritan and Prodigal Son. Women figure more prominently in Luke's gospel than in any other: look out for the extended story of the Virgin Birth, and stories of Mary, Elizabeth, and the woman who was a sinner. His gospel also features more poor people, more lepers, more 'sinners', who are all shown to be 'inside' the love of Christ. In Acts, Luke skilfully links sacred and profane history, as subsequent archaeology has shown. He tells of how the early Christians moved away from Jerusalem into the pagan world, and especially on to Rome.



LUKE	FEAST	DAY	WRITTEN	GOSPEL	CHRISTIANS
ACTS	GREEK	PHYSICIAN	TRAVELLING	FAITHFUL	EARLY
PAUL	COMPASSION	PARABLES	PRODIGAL	SON	ROME
GOOD	SAMARITAN	WOMEN	POOR	PAGAN	LEPERS
		SINNERS	JERUSALEM		

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Thought for the Month

If we could ask the people living one hundred years ago what was the greatest difference they noticed about then and now, it would probably be noise. We are surrounded by it. When I was growing up in the countryside it was much quieter. We would even rush to the road gate at the sound of a car. Today noise is everywhere. There is the constant hum of the motorway. When you travel on the busses it is often difficult to hold a conversation because of others shouting on their mobile phones. I wonder why they have to speak so loudly. Today's generation have grown up with noise so much so that they appear to be frightened of silence. Many travel around with headphones or ear buds listening to their own particular type of music. Yes we live in a very noisy world.



A countryman visited his friend who lived in the heart of a city. One day as they were walking along the pavement of a very busy road the countryman paused and said to his friend.

"I can hear a grasshopper."

"I doubt that," said his friend.

But sure enough, in a window box on a nearby house there was a grasshopper.

"How on earth did you hear that in the midst of all this noise?" asked the city dweller.

"Because my ears are tuned in to such sounds." He replied. "Just watch this." He took a coin from his pocket and dropped it on the pavement. At once every passer-by turned his or her head in the direction of the sound.

"There," smiled the countryman, stooping down to pick up the coin, "We can all hear what we train ourselves to hear."

That is a great message for us. We do live in a noisy busy world but we can train ourselves to listen to the small voice of calm by cutting out the noise around us. We can find a quiet place to be with God and listen. God is always willing to talk to us. We just need to listen.

God bless.

John

Life by the River

Peace perfect peace happened here in Welford on Bank Holiday Monday, when a camper van carrying Mum, Dad and their children broke down on the bridge right outside my house. The thing was, it was electric and had stuck in gear so couldn't be pushed and they had to wait for the recovery to come which took four hours. The Four Alls pub looked after the wife and children. As the bridge is the only route in and out of the village, the road was closed to traffic. People with short fuses complained, but the man put a message on our forum page to thank the people of Welford for their help after being towed off the bridge. They will never forget the hot bank holiday in August spent in Welford.

A friend at Church said to me a couple of months ago: "What do you do on Sunday afternoons?" I said: "I go home, watch Songs of Praise then delight in the activity on the river." So she said: "Why don't we go out for a meal?" So the first pub was The Bell here in Welford, it was a lovely sunny afternoon and we sat in the "Secret Garden" It was a beautiful meal and as we are both on our own we enjoyed each other's company. So the next time was where shall we go? So we went The Bell at Alderminster (not far from where John Horton was the vicar). It was a fairly good meal, although the beef was a little bit chewy. She drove me back to my car in the Church car park, and we had to sit in her car for 20 minutes as it was torrential rain but we are the Ladies who Lunch.

At our Mothers' Union meeting, Hilary did a talk on the origins of Harvest. We sang that beautiful Harvest hymn "For the beauty of the earth". We had a quiz and a game, all rounded off with home made scones and four types of jam and a delightful display of pears, apples, grapes and harvest type greenery, and a time for chat and fellowship.

On September 14th at church I was down for a Bible reading and someone said would I swap intercessions so therefore I was down twice. After the service our Vicar Craig said it was the Jane show his morning. I said I thought if I had a white collar I could have taken the service, so he offered his I quickly answered no way!

Another afternoon tea at St Peter's in Welford for people who live on their own in the village. It was beautifully prepared and tasted so delicious with cream cheese and smoked salmon rolls, sandwiches and quiche followed with cakes, all washed down with tea. This time the lady who has organised it retired after eight years and was presented with flowers and cards, for a well earned rest.

On the River it seems quiet, the lily pads have gone and the surface of the river is just like glass. The swans and signets are still gliding by, today twelve Canada geese flew in to check up on us they will be gone by tomorrow, just a stop on their migration journey.

The ducks seem to have multiplied, much to Jemima's disgust. I get up at 7.00 each morning and like to read my paper on my ipad overlooking the river. The ducks are about and Jemima swims past my window looking up— I have to say to her no not yet. As I feed Jemima the fish are coming up taking in the spare food and the tiny moorhen is still about swimming in and out of the bank, it's different every day but so much to look forward to.



**Lord as we go into the weeks ahead help us to
be encouragers,
maybe offering a small smile, a kind word or
helping hand,
all done with God's blessing.
Every Blessing
*Jane Smith x***

Time to smile!



Eunice insisted Cedric show her just where in the Bible it said men couldn't do the washing up.





CHRISTMAS THEMED HOSPICE COFFEE MORNING



All proceeds to Mary Ann Evans Hospice



**Please join us on
16th November
in the Small Hall**



10.00 am - 12.00 noon

**Tea, Coffee, Cakes, Raffle
and Sales Table**



Exhall Over 50s Club

We're a place to meet together, make friends and
generally have a good time...

We run a monthly buffet, a monthly pub lunch, occasional coach and
theatre trips, and weekly table games,
discussions, music and sing-alongs, bingo,
a raffle, talks, demos, films
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We are a warm, friendly group
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Every Tuesday in St Giles Main Hall, 1-3pm.

Membership £12/year, sessions £3.00

Further info: Patricia Munro 024 7664 4507

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Funerals

*In the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil, for you are with me.*



Shirley Phillips, who died on 26th August aged 90 years



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established in 1922 by their
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Ministry and Admin

Vicar	Gail Phillip	024 7664 5030 07869 395980
Wardens	Jayne Pagett Nikki Smith	07791 073560 07341 844907
Readers	John Owen Chris Wilson	0247636 6111 07717 523512
Administrator/Rotas	Penny Pallett	0247636 8008
Bereavement Drop-In	Sue Barnes	07946 051122
Electoral Roll	Beryl Owen	0247636 6111
Halls Bookings	Tina Watkins	0247664 5278 07905 297713
Parish Magazine	Tina Watkins	0247664 5278 07905 297713
Pastoral Care	Gail Phillip	024 7664 5030 07869 395980
PCC Secretary	Tina Watkins	07905 297713
PCC Treasurer and Gift Aid	Stephen Carter	0247631 2831
Safeguarding	Muriel Ganley	07988 477659
Website	Penny Pallett Neil Harris	024 76 368008 07432 414798

Church and Worship

Bell Ringing	Steve Watkins	0247664 5278 07926 989686
Brass cleaning	Chrissie Hughes	0247631 5468
Choir/Organist	Kathryn Unsworth	0247667 3325
11.45 Worship Band	Roy Edwards	0247664 4916
Flowers in Church	Irene Prideaux	0247636 1321
Prayer Chain	Chris Wilson	07717 523512
Verger	Mandy Williams	02476 337188

Young People, Nurture and Discipleship

Home Groups	Gail Phillip	024 7664 5030 07869 395980
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Other Groups and Activities

Drama Club	Tina Watkins	0247664 5278 07905 297713
Hospice Coffee Morning	Viv Hopkins	0247664 5161
Mothers' Union	Mandy Williams	0247633 7188
Over 50s Club	Patricia Munro	0247664 4507
Green Genies	Robert and Jackie West	0247636 2168



Saturday 29th November

12noon—3.30 pm

In St Giles main hall

Admission £1 (accompanied under-16s free)

We've got cakes and Crafts for sale,
raffles and tombolas, refreshments,
cards, gifts and a school choir to get
us in the festive spirit.



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KINDNESS COMPASSION COMMUNITY
IN CHRIST'S LOVE

St Giles Road CV7 9GZ

What3words: steep.behave.goals