

THE KING

The Parish Magazine of
St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills
SEPTEMBER 2026



Statue of St. Cecilia at St. Edmund's

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND THE KING

NORTHWOOD HILLS

VICAR

The Reverend Michael Miller (020) 8866 9230
The Vicarage, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood HA6 1QS
e-mail vicar@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

LAY MINISTER

Miss Sarah Parnaby (020) 8866 8309

SERVICES

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday
Also streamed from our website
Other Services - Said Eucharist
7.15 pm Tuesdays, 6.00 pm Wednesdays,
10.00 am Thursdays, 11.00 am Fridays, 10.30 am Saturdays

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays at 10.00 am in the Hall during term time.
contact Carol Diggins on 07827 159 586 for information.

Arrangements for the SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession),
BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, and BANNS OF MARRIAGE -
please telephone the Vicar.

OFFICERS

Churchwardens	Steve Castle Isaac Odeyemi	3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY <i>e-mail</i> churchwardens@stedmundtheking.org.uk	(020) 8868 0482
Hon. Secretary	Amanda Roberts	<i>e-mail</i> secretary@stedmundtheking.org.uk	
Hon. Treasurer	James Mair		(020) 8428 1349
Director of Music	Mark Hammond	39b Carlton Avenue, Kenton HA3 8AX	(020) 8909 2687
Hall Bookings	Steve Castle	3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY	(020) 8868 0482
Safeguarding Officer	Lorraine Singh	safeguarding@saintedmundschurch.org.uk	07958 319 334

ORGANISATIONS

Women's Guild	Sarah Parnaby		(020) 8866 8309
Arrow Players	Michael Warrick		07813 618 225
Youth Group	Steve Castle	3a Willows Close, Pinner HA5 3SY	(020) 8868 0482
Scout Group	Amanda Roberts	<i>e-mail</i> amanda.roberts@renscouts.org.uk	
Brownies	Nicola Setterfield	<i>e-mail</i> brownies6northwood@yahoo.co.uk	07742 886 758

MAGAZINE

Hon. Editor	Jenny Jones	19 Latimer Close, Pinner HA5 3RB	(020) 8866 7173
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WEBSITE

www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

FACEBOOK



St. Edmund's Church, Northwood Hills

HOW TO RECEIVE THE MAGAZINE

This magazine is published online at www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk
and can be printed on request.

If you know someone who does not have internet access
and would like a printed copy of this magazine,
please contact Steve Castle at
steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk
giving their name and postal address
(having first obtained their permission to supply this personal information).

We publish a free weekly e-mail newsletter which contains links
to the latest edition of this magazine and to The Orbit pew sheet.

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THE KING

The Parish Magazine of
St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

OCTOBER 2026



Harvest Thanksgiving

OCTOBER MAGAZINE

*All contributions for
the October Magazine
to be with Jenny Jones by
Friday 18th September
020 8866 7173
jonesjennye@googlemail.com*

*The October Magazine
will be available
from Sunday 27th September*

FR. MICHAEL'S LETTER

Dear friends

Near the end of September – on 29th to be exact – the Church celebrates the feast of St. Michael and All Angels. It was on the eve of that feast 10 years ago that I became Vicar of St. Edmund's. Much has happened in those 10 years and they certainly seem to have flown past. They say that time does fly when you are enjoying yourself, and I certainly have enjoyed my time here. There have been some difficult times, not least back in 2020, when we had to cope with the Covid outbreak and were not allowed to meet in the church building. Good things did however, come out of that time and we had to change the way we looked at church life. For example, the fact that we now live stream our Sunday services probably would not have happened if it hadn't been for lockdown.

Often God uses difficult situations to bring about good, though we may only recognise that with the benefit of hindsight. Looking back over the past decade, I can see many moments when what first seemed unsettling or demanding became an opportunity for us to grow in faith, deepen our care for one another, and discover new ways of being the Church. That does not mean the difficulties were easy, or that we would have chosen them, but it does remind us that God is at work in all things, even when the way ahead is not immediately clear.

The feast of St. Michael and All Angels comes at a fitting time of year. The days are beginning to shorten, summer gives way to autumn, and we are reminded that the Christian life is not lived only in bright and easy seasons. St. Michael is traditionally remembered as a defender and servant of God, and the angels as those who worship, serve, guard and guide at God's command. The Church of England's Collect for the day asks that, as God's holy angels serve him in heaven, so they may help and defend us on earth. That is a lovely prayer to carry with us as we begin a new season of church life.

For me, anniversaries are not simply occasions for looking back; they are also invitations to look forward. As I think about these 10 years at St. Edmund's, I am deeply thankful for the faithfulness, kindness and generosity I have seen in so many people. I am thankful for those who give their time quietly and faithfully, for those who pray, welcome, teach, sing, visit, organise, clean, serve refreshments, care for the building, care for one another, and in countless ways help to make our parish church a living community of faith.

As September begins, many things start again after the quieter weeks of summer: schools return, meetings resume, routines are picked up once more, and church activities gather pace. My prayer is that we will enter this new season with confidence, not because we know exactly what lies ahead, but because we trust the God who goes before us. The past ten years have shown me again and again that God is faithful, and that when we offer what we have, however small it may seem, he can use it for his glory and for the good of others.

So as we come to Michaelmas, and as I give thanks for 10 years as your Vicar, let us also give thanks for God's protection, guidance and grace. Let us pray that St. Edmund's may continue to be a place where people find welcome, hope and the love of Christ, and where together we may serve God faithfully in the days and years to come.

With love and prayers,

Fr. Michael



PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Our Parish pilgrimage to Walsingham will be
from Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th October 2026.

If you are interested please speak to Fr. Michael or Steve
who can provide you with further details and the application form.

The cost for full board is £190.



HARVEST 2026 AT ST. EDMUND'S

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

11.00 am Sunday 4th October

Followed by Harvest Lunch in the Hall

CALENDAR AND PRINCIPAL SERVICE READINGS SEPTEMBER 2026

Principal Service - Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am every Sunday

- 5 Sat 11.00 am Walking Miles Together
- 6 SUN 14th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
Ezekiel 33.7-11, Romans 13.8-end, Matthew 18.15-20
11.15 am Bring and Buy Sale
- 8 Tues **Accession of H.M. King Charles III (2022)**
2.30 pm Women's Guild
- 13 SUN 15th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
Genesis 50.15-21, Romans 14.1-12, Matthew 18.21-35
- 14 Mon **Holy Cross Day**
Numbers 21.4-9, Philippians 2.6-11, John 3.13-17
- 20 SUN 16th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
Jonah 3.10-4.11, Philippians 1.21-30, Matthew 20.1-16
- 21 Mon **St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**
Proverbs 3.13-18, 2 Corinthians 4.1-6, Matthew 9.9-13
- 27 SUN 17th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-end, Philippians 2.1-13, Matthew 21.23-32
- 21 Mon **St. Michael and All Angels**
Revelation 12.7-12, Hebrews 1.5-end, John 1.47-51

OTHER DIARY DATES

- | | | |
|---|----------|--|
| Sunday 4 th October | | Harvest Thanksgiving |
| Saturday 10 th October | 6.30 pm | Harrow Deanery Choirs Festival
at St. Mary's, Harrow on the Hill
Organist : Mark Hammond |
| Saturday 17 th October | 6.00 pm | Quiz Evening |
| Fri 23 rd - Sun 25 th October | | Pilgrimage to Walsingham |
| Monday 2 nd November | 7.00 pm | All Souls' Day Requiem Sung Eucharist |
| Sunday 8 th November | | Remembrance Sunday |
| Friday 20 th November | | St. Edmund's Day |
| Saturday 28 th November | 11.30 am | Christmas Bazaar |

SUNDAY SCHOOL



at St Edmund's Church

**For more information
call Carol 07827 159 586**



**BRING - AND - BUY
SALE**

**1st SUNDAY OF
EACH MONTH**

11.15am IN THE HALL

Part of our Eco Church Project

St. EDMUND'S WOMEN'S GUILD

**The next meeting will be on TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER at 2.30 pm
when Jean Aikman will entertain us
with one of her dramatic monologues**

Followed by refreshments. All are welcome

For the remainder of 2026, the programme is :

TUESDAY 13TH OCTOBER at 2.30 pm

Mark Hammond will present his "Desert Island Discs"

Followed by refreshments

TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER at 2.30 pm

A Talk by Lorraine Singh - "The Real Jamaica"

Followed by refreshments

TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER at 2.30 pm

Peter Heath will lead us in a Carol Concert

Followed by a Festive Tea



RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE

Dear Friends,

It was with great sadness that we received the news that Margery Richards had passed away on the 24th of August. Margery was an inspirational supporter of “Raise the Roof”, and became St. Edmund’s own heroic “Captain Sir Tom Moore” figure as she completed her “5K Challenge” travelling the length and breadth of Eastcote House Gardens in the late summer of 2021, at the young age of 98. May she rest in eternal peace and her inspirational attitude live long in our memories.

Our next fundraising event will be a sponsored walk on Saturday 5th September in aid of both Raise the Roof and Bowel Cancer UK. Our friend Donna from Arrow Players spoke movingly about her cancer journey during the notices on Sunday 26th July. If you didn’t hear her speak you can watch by following this link: https://youtu.be/HsGCt04_Vs0?t=4003 or scan this QR code with the camera app on your mobile phone or tablet.



More details about the walk can be found elsewhere in this edition. To register (or ask any questions!) please send an email to walk@arrowplayers.org.uk

Then in October we will have another Quiz Evening which will take place on 17th October (not on the 10th as previously advertised). Tickets are available from me after Church on Sundays or by e-mailing me at steven.castle@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

Personal Donations: An Appeal

We can only reach our fund-raising target through a combination of prayer, collective fundraising events, grants and personal donations. If, after prayerful thought and consideration, you feel able to make a personal donation towards the Hall and Lady Chapel roof replacement, it would be greatly appreciated.

Donations may be made in several ways:

- by bank transfer to our account with CAF Bank (preferred method, as we receive the whole amount with no fees taken):
 - account name: PCC of St. Edmund The King, Northwood Hills
 - sort code: 40-52-40
 - account number: 00017222
 - reference “Raise the Roof”
- by online donation via credit or debit card or PayPal by clicking the “Donate here” button on our website: www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk
- by cheque, made payable to PCC of St. Edmund The King (with “Raise the Roof” written on the reverse, please). Cheques may be sent to The Treasurer, St. Edmund’s Church, 2 Pinner Road, Northwood. HA6 1QS.

Thank you for considering a donation, and to those who have already donated so generously. Please continue to keep the project in your prayers as we seek to keep our Hall and Lady Chapel open, safe and available for all in our Parish.

With my best wishes Steve Castle

NEWS FROM WELL BEYOND THE PEWS

Sarah Parnaby

Greetings from Ontario, Canada! I miss you all, but I'm also absorbing with interest and enjoyment the differences between Canada and home.

We're in Belleville, a town about 150 miles from Toronto, and very close to Lake Ontario. Our hosts are Frank's cousin Jenny and her husband Geoff (who still have English accents after 38 years here). They are very hospitable - although Geoff clearly enjoys teasing me! (He's a Northerner: what would I expect?!)

When we arrived at Toronto Airport, we took a long-distance bus to the town of Pickering; on the way we saw one of those incredibly long freight trains - average length 2.3 MILES long with over 100 trucks! We were picked up by Geoff and Jenny and driven to a lovely chicken restaurant in North Ajax. Here a number of their prolific family were gathered: three generations were represented (youngest 5 years old). It was an unexpected and delightful welcome. After eating, we had another 2 hours' journey to their home in Belleville, where we met their beautiful Russian Blue cat, Emmy. (We'd realised already that there's a lot of driving necessary in Canada, and were grateful to arrive at last!)

Over the next few days, they familiarised us with the area, and we sampled the pleasures of their 'local' bakery, Cob's, and Reid's Ice Cream Parlour, where one Canadian scoop equals 5 in England! (Yesss!) We met up with more family members, and on Thursday 6th we were taken to the 'Turtle Pond' right next to Lake Ontario, where, amongst other wildlife, including swans and cygnets, Canada geese (unsurprisingly!), ducks and a brown squirrel, we witnessed some turtles resting on tree branches just above the waterline.

The next day, we crossed the Skyway Bridge to Prince Edward County, which is a very large island (bordered on one of its sides just by a canal). Here we enjoyed the pretty town, after visiting a rather splendid crepe restaurant for lunch. From there we continued to 'The Lake on the Mountain' which is 60m above Lake Ontario; you can look down on one lake from the other! We then crossed Lake Ontario by the Glenora ferry, disembarking at the place where the British Loyalists to the Crown had landed in 1784. Here they were flying the original version of the Union Flag, which only includes England and Scotland on it. We drove back home through the gentle, rolling farmlands of Adolphustown - an area that is home to the indigenous Mohawks - and it was also round here that the Quakers had settled in the 18th Century.

Our Sunday was very unlike it usually is in Northwood Hills! Because of some necessary changes of plan, we didn't attend a church in person, but watched a service online, from the Sanctus Church in Ajax - seemingly an Evangelical Charismatic Free Church (There are many kinds of church in Canada, as in Britain). The service began with a long, serene session of repetitive praise songs accompanied by guitars, etc. Holy Communion was distributed early in the service, in individual two-layered cups, the top layer containing bread, the lower one non-alcoholic 'wine'. After prayers and notices, there was a lengthy but well-composed sermon on the subject of 'how family

can become an act of worship'. The pastor did mention the fact that some people can have a negative experience of family life, but I am also always concerned about the feelings of churchgoers who have little or no family, when a preacher focuses on this subject. Nevertheless, the sermon and the whole service contained much food for thought, and we were happy to experience the different style of service. I was particularly taken at one point to the comment: 'So many are shaped by the world and not by Jesus' - a relevant message to all of us in our different societies and cultures around the world.

That afternoon we visited downtown Belleville and admired the Moira River and the small Loyalist Monument, topped with a model of a log cabin. It's so interesting and important to become more familiar with another country's history, and to find out what historical events matter particularly to them, and why.

A major highlight of our trip so far has been the 'Thousand Islands Cruise' we took from Gananoque on the St. Lawrence River on Tuesday 11th August. It took three glorious hours, and we passed more than a few of the islands (there are actually more than 1,800), which are mostly clad with forests, but occasionally have farmland as well. Some have beautiful dwellings, others are uninhabited. (Boldt Island has a large Gothic-style house known as Boldt Castle, with a smaller castle beside it and a mysterious ruin!) We went partly along the St. Lawrence Seaway. Some of our route went through the USA (one is not allowed to land there, of course), and I've a text on my mobile phone to prove it! This was a stunning trip. Not only was the scenery beautiful and peaceful, but the skies were also truly awe-inspiring, as you could see for great distances, and make out rainstorms happening far away. We finished the day in a lovely restaurant on the dockside.

The final excursion I can tell you about, in order to make the expected Magazine deadline, is our visit to Kingston on August 12th. Kingston was the first Loyalist outpost in Canada, and for a short time, its capital. The old town, also on the Lake, is picturesque, with a number of 'old' buildings ('old' by Canadian standards is 18th and 19th century!), many of which are of a light-grey limestone. One of them is the old Railway Station building, at least 150 years old. Behind it stands a wonderful antique Canadian Pacific steam-engine. From there you could see, across the water, two of the Martello towers built to protect the town and the mouth of the nearby Rideau Canal.

There is a Great Lakes Museum on the quay. It contains various interesting items and vessels relating to local marine history, including a vast passenger ship, the SS Keewatin, built in Glasgow in 1907 and owned by Canadian-Pacific Railways, previously having carried coal across the Atlantic.

I'm sorry you've been having so much intensely hot weather. Ours has been more bearable, with the odd storm (which can be quite dangerous). We joined in with the celebration our hosts' wedding anniversary on the weekend of 15th-16th August, and then we flew to Vancouver.

Vancouver was a different world. Nearly five hours west of Toronto by plane, and three hours behind, we arrived around tea-time, our body clocks totally confused. We caught the free shuttle to our pleasant hotel, which was conveniently nearby.

Over the next few days, we were to use the shuttle to get to the airport station, from which we could easily travel into town by the 'Canada Line', part of the small but efficient metro system.

Vancouver is a city on the water, backed by mountains, and has a delightful 'vibe': friendly, with a sense of fun, activity and enjoyment. On our first full day (18th), we visited Grouse Mountain, an important nature reserve. We took a sea bus across to trendy Lonsdale Quay, from where the 236 bus conveyed us up the lower mountain slopes. We took a 'gondola' (swinging cable car) up further, and then a slightly scary chair-lift: the silence of the evergreen forest was palpable. On the mountain there's a bear-refuge, and you can attend presentations on such topics as owls, ecology, log-cutting, etc. There are some beautiful trails for walking and bikes, and places to rest and refresh yourself. (A quick email conversation with Carol on the subject of church cleaning, while we were halfway up the mountain, revealed that she is far more familiar with Vancouver than I am!)

The following day we explored some of the city, which Frank remembered from earlier trips. We headed for Gastown, a quaint spot named after 'Gassy' Jack Deighton, a talkative character who started a bar for lumberjacks in that area in 1867: soon, other stores joined him. He is commemorated by a characterful 'Gas Clock', which chimes the quarters noisily with a steam organ mechanism, drawing many amused tourists! The area is attractive and lively, with its older buildings, vintage streetlamps and cheerful hanging baskets.

Later we tried to visit the small Gothic-style cathedral and two other venerable-looking churches nearby (including St. Andrew's Wesley United Church, a patently 'inclusive' one, which Frank once attended on Christmas Day), but sadly they were shut. We finished our day eating outdoors at a relaxed restaurant on the Quay, looking across the bay as the sun went down. The water sparkled and the moon was faintly visible. There is always plenty to see in the Bay, as it's a busy waterway with cargo ships, cruise liners, ferries and many other types of craft - and it's also a peaceful experience just to watch it at leisure.

On our last day in Vancouver we visited Kitsilano Beach, a popular area for swimming, sunbathing, playing volleyball, basketball and tennis, or just strolling in the adjacent park. We paddled in the Pacific, and I collected some striking purple shells on the shore. Returning to the Waterfront Terminus area, we repaired to a 'Chocolate Café', which, ironically, was next to an establishment called 'Terminal Dental'! Was there a connection, we wondered?

The following morning we headed back to Toronto, to be welcomed back by our cousins. We are so grateful to Geoff and Jenny, their son and daughter-in-law, Stephen and Paula, and all the family for their tireless hospitality and all their efforts in making our wonderful adventure so memorable. We'll have plenty of stories to tell when we return.

Till then, all good wishes, thoughts and prayers.

THE TRADITIONS OF MICHAELMAS

Michaelmas, properly the Festival of St. Michael and All Angels, is celebrated each 29th of September. As it falls near the autumnal equinox, the day became associated with the beginning of autumn, when the days start to be shorter than the nights. Traditionally, much of English social, financial, legal and educational structures were based around the (roughly) 3 month periods between the 2 equinoxes and the 2 solstices; so these annual markers were called “Quarter Days”.

The traditional Quarter Days, coinciding with Christian Festivals are
25th March - The Festival of The Annunciation to Mary, hence “Lady Day”,
which until 1752 was also New Year’s Day.

24th June - The Festival of The Birth of John the Baptist (“Midsummer Day”),

29th September - “Michaelmas”, and 25th December - Christmas Day

The main function of Quarter Days was that they were the four dates in the year on which servants were hired, rents due or leases begun. It was said that harvest had to be completed by Michaelmas, marking of the end of the productive season and the beginning of the new cycle of farming. Thus it was that Michaelmas also became to be the time for electing magistrates and for the beginning of legal and university terms. The autumn term is still called Michaelmas in many legal institutions and some Universities, including those of Oxford, Cambridge and Durham.

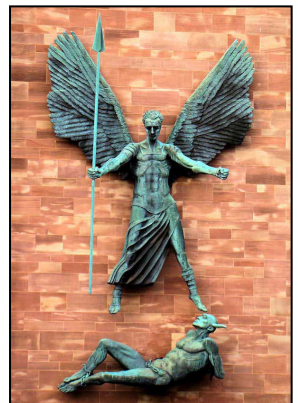
St. Michael is viewed as one of the principal angelic warriors, protector against the dark of the night, and the Archangel who fought against Satan and his evil angels (Revelation Ch. 12). As Michaelmas is the time that the darker nights and colder days begin – the edge into winter – the celebration of Michaelmas is associated with encouraging protection during these dark months. It was believed that negative forces were stronger in darkness and so families would require stronger defences during the later months of the year.

Traditionally, a well fattened goose, fed on the stubble from the fields after the harvest, is eaten to protect against financial need in the family for the next year; and as the saying goes:

“Eat a goose on Michaelmas Day, Want not for money all the year”.

The day was also known as “Goose Day” and Goose Fairs were held. Even now, the famous Nottingham Goose Fair is still held on or around the 3rd of October. Part of the reason goose is eaten is that it was said that when Queen Elizabeth I heard of the defeat of the Armada, she was dining on goose, and resolved to eat it on Michaelmas Day.

Before the adoption of the Gregorian Calendar in 1752, Michaelmas Day fell on 10th or 11th October. The folklore was that the Devil was thrown out of Heaven by St. Michael on that date, and fell into a blackberry bush, cursing the fruit as he fell so, accordingly, blackberries should not be picked after this date!



14th SEPTEMBER - HOLY CROSS DAY

On the Festival of Holy Cross Day (or “The Exaltation of the Holy Cross”) the Church of England celebrates the Cross as a symbol of triumph, as the sign of Christ’s victory over death. Holy Cross Day originates from the work of Helena, the mother of a Roman Emperor Constantine. She was a devout Christian, and after her son was converted, they agreed that she should travel from Rome to Israel, and seek out the places of special significance to Christians. Much of Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Romans around AD 135, but Helena eventually located what she believed to be the sites of the Crucifixion and of the Burial (and modern archaeologists think she may well have been correct). The sites were so close together that she built one large church over them - the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. That Church, built in honour of the Cross, was dedicated on 14th September AD 335.

During the construction of the shrine, and a relic believed to be the Cross was discovered. Claims by the Church of Jerusalem to have the cross date from the mid 4th century, and the pilgrim Egeria mentions a feast commemorating the discovery of the cross in Jerusalem in the late 4th century. The feast has also been associated with the exposition at Jerusalem of the cross by the Byzantine Emperor Heraclius (575-641). He recovered the relic from the Persians, who took it from Jerusalem in 614 when they destroyed the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Although the authenticity of alleged relics of the cross may be questionable, Holy Cross Day provides an opportunity for a joyous celebration of Christ’s redeeming death on a cross.

The Festival thus commemorates Christ's self-offering on the cross for our salvation. The Eucharistic Preface for Holy Cross Day recalls that Christ “was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself” and prays that “we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him” The themes of Holy Cross Day are powerfully expressed by the hymn “Lift high the cross”.

St. Helena herself is commemorated in the Church of England on 21st May. The island of St. Helena, a British Overseas Territory in the South Atlantic, is named in her honour, the island being said to have been first discovered, depending on which source you believe, either on her feast day (21st May), or on 3rd May, being the Roman Catholic feast day of the Finding of the True Cross by St. Helena in Jerusalem.

Adapted from material supplied by www.parishpump.co.uk

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

From material supplied by www.parishpump.co.uk

The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10.25-37) tells of a man who is mugged on the road between Jerusalem and Jericho and rescued by a Samaritan. Jesus tells it in response to a lawyer's question, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" When Jesus calls for a life of total love towards God and neighbour, the lawyer comes back with the question: 'who is my neighbour?'

The plight of the man and the indifference of the priest and Levite would have horrified Jesus' hearers. They assumed that the hero of the story would be a Jew! However, Jesus presents the Samaritan, a sworn enemy of the Jews, as a model of integrity and an example to follow: "Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?...Go and do likewise.". The challenge of the story is that often our neighbours can be our worst enemies, yet these are the very people we are called to love as ourselves.

Of course, we can all think of people to whom we are called to be a Samaritan in our lives: those we try to avoid and don't want to get alongside. If we are honest, we know that we don't have it in us to love as Jesus says here. We all need somebody who will be our Good Samaritan, to rescue us and enable us to love others as ourselves. Jesus is that Good Samaritan for us.

By depicting a Samaritan helping a Jew, Jesus could not have found a more forceful way to say that anyone at all in need - regardless of race, politics, class, and religion - is your neighbour.



2nd NORTHWOOD (ST. EDMUND'S) SCOUT GROUP

The Annual General Meeting of the 2nd Northwood Group Scout Council took place on 16th July 2026. Extracts from The Group Lead Volunteer's report sums up the year's activities ...

I am going to start by saying a huge thank you to our trustees and leaders who give up their time, not only visibly in the weekly meetings and events, but also for their time in upskilling themselves, keeping up to date with training, maintaining and purchasing equipment and of course the admin that comes with it all. They do all this as volunteers around their family, work and general life, because they believe in scouting. Additionally, thank you to St. Edmund's, who are a source of immense support. We are so fortunate to have your unwavering commitment to our group.

I would also like to express my gratitude on behalf of all the leaders and young people to Mike Evans, our President, who died this year. He supported the group for over 40 years as Treasurer after his wife Wendy volunteered him when his son was a cub. His spirit will live on through scouting at 2nd Northwood.

The Summer Term 2025 was packed with activities, including the St. George's Day Parade at Ruislip Lido; several trips to Paccar, where all sections took on challenges such as abseiling, crate stacking, archery and caving. Additionally, there was some hiking and our District Phasels Wood Camp, where Scouts and Cubs camped for the weekend and Beavers came for the day. Cubs also had another trampolining sleep over.

After the summer break, Autumn Term saw the formal introduction of 2nd Northwood Squirrels, the youngest section in scouting. We have been fortunate to have the continued support of Vania overseeing the weekly running of the meetings and Karen Tempest doing the behind-the-scenes work. Two new volunteers have joined them, initially helping, before more recently taking on a more proactive role, supporting the planning and running meetings and events. As usual, we attended Harvest Thanksgiving and Remembrance Sunday Church Parades at St. Edmund's. We are always welcomed by the congregation, who follow what we get up to with fondness.

Scouts always have a busy term with an activity camp and water activity day. Cubs learnt about fireworks, Diwali, healthy eating, dropping eggs from height as well as having their own activity day and making pizzas for their families. Beavers learnt about air activity, gardening, knots and tracking as well as going on a hike and challenging themselves at Paccar. Squirrels had a short term, learning about space, faith, fireworks and taking part in church parades.

In the Spring Term, Glenn Smith stepped back as Beaver Leader due to increased work commitments. Katie took over as the main lead and was joined by other leaders as she continued to develop the section and programme. Beavers made pancakes, and a large number with their parents came to help at St. Edmund's Gardening Day.

They also learnt about money. Cubs enjoyed another fun-packed term, including a District sleepover, baking, map reading and home skills. Scouts retained the Chilly Goat Camp trophy for a record fourth time. Chilly Goat is a District winter camp, held immediately after Christmas, where over the weekend the groups are set challenges such as building a shelter, cooking on mini stoves, first aid, water filtration and what to do on a hike in an emergency. They also had a K'Nex challenge, a spider's web evening, archery, rifle shooting, plus of course pancake making, and a Ready Steady Cook evening. Squirrels enjoyed crafts, parachute games and stories. All sections attended the Mothering Sunday church parade and were given plants to take home from St Edmund's.

Our Scout Hut Building Project is still moving forward, and hopefully the lease is in the final stages, which means that we will be able to start Fundraising. Trustees, leaders and St. Edmunds have been working hard on this and are looking forward to the next phase, including looking for support from parents relating to applying for grants and carrying out some fundraising events.

We have great Scout and Cub Leadership Teams. However, we are still developing our Beaver and Squirrel Teams so are looking for adults to become regular helpers to support the leaders by running games, a crafts activity, or helping with hut maintenance, grant applications and other fundraising such as a car wash.

I cannot finish without acknowledging the largest 2nd Northwood Family Camp we have ever had and the first in which our Squirrels joined up this June where we had 100 people over the weekend. Thank you to all the leaders for their hard work before, during and afterwards. Thank you to the parents for attending and to those who helped, but most importantly thank you to the Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts for throwing themselves whole heartedly into it and having a thoroughly good time.



Thank you for all your support this last year; I look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Amanda Roberts, Group Lead Volunteer

WALKING MILES TOGETHER - ONE STEP, ONE LAUGH, ONE COMMUNITY

On Saturday 5th September, starting at 11.00 am, we're inviting the wonderful people of Arrow Players and St. Edmund's Church to come together with one ambitious goal – to walk a combined 100 miles in aid of Bowel Cancer UK and “Raise the Roof”. Many feet really do make light work!

Inspired by our Arrow Player, Donna, we will support her in raising awareness of bowel cancer and the importance of early cancer screening, whilst making memories together.

We'll be walking from St. Edmund's Church to Ruislip Lido and back, with a range of walking options available, so whether you're aiming for the full route or something a little gentler, there's a distance to suit everyone.

Not keen on the walking? That's absolutely fine! We'd still love you to join us afterwards for a well-earned cuppa and a slice of cake. After all, someone has to make sure the cake doesn't go to waste!

Entry is £5, which includes a water bottle to keep you hydrated along the way. Event T-shirts are also available for an additional £5 - perfect for showing your support and looking suitably sporty, even if you're only there for the cake.

So, lace up your walking shoes, bring your friends, your family, and your sense of humour, and help us make every step count, and, most importantly, get all your friends to sponsor you via JustGiving. Together we can support two amazing charities and have a great day along the way.

To register please:

- send us an email at walk@arrowplayers.org.uk letting us know your name, the size of T-shirt you'd like (size S/M/L/XL available), and whether you'd like to do the full walk or take a shorter option (we'll send you details).
OR, fill in one of the forms available at the back of the Church
- send payment (£5 for the walk or £10 for walk and T-shirt) by bank transfer to
Account Name: Arrow Players Sort Code: 30-99-50.
Account Number: 70618860 Reference: Walk (*your name*).

To sponsor us please visit our JustGiving page to make your donation. Just type <https://tinyurl.com/walkmiles> into your browser, or scan the QR code below using your mobile or tablet's camera app. Thank you for your support!

If you have any questions please get in touch with Nicky Setterfield, Donna Bryk or Steve Castle, or email walk@arrowplayers.org.uk and we'll happily give you all the information you need.



YOU ARE INVITED

TO JOIN A

in support of



**St Edmund's
RAISE
THE ROOF**



**Bowel
Cancer UK**
Beating bowel cancer
together

SPONSORED CHARITY WALK

**FROM ST EDMUND'S TO
RUISLIP LIDO AND BACK**



The walk will start
from St Edmund's on
**SATURDAY
5TH SEPTEMBER
AT 11AM**



and be followed by
refreshments in the
Hall at **2pm**



**ENTRY
£5**
(includes
water bottle)



**OPTIONAL
T-SHIRT
+£5**



**Shorter walks and
"2pm refreshments
only" options are
available – just tick
your preferred option
on the form!**



More details from **Nicky Setterfield** or **Steve Castle**



TO REGISTER

Please complete the sheet
at the back of the Church or
e-mail walk@arrowplayers.org.uk



Awareness Bowel Cancer Community Charity



ARROW PLAYERS

present



A QUIZ EVENING

in support of "Raise the Roof"

SATURDAY 17th OCTOBER

at St. Edmund's Hall

Tickets - £10 per person

**Includes Ploughman's Supper, Dessert
and Tea/Coffee/Squash**

Bring your own other drinks

Ploughman's options -

Ardennes pate or Mushroom pate or Cheddar or Stilton

Dessert options -

Lemon Curd Meringue Roulade or

Chocolate Brownie (vegan/gluten free) or Fruit Salad

Hall opens at 6.00 pm

Ploughman's at 6.30 pm

Quiz starts at 7.00 pm

A raffle will be held in aid of "Raise the Roof"

Tables/teams of between 6 and 8 people.

Form your own team or join with others on the night.

Admittance by ticket only

Tickets available from Steve Castle -

Call/text/WhatsApp 07710 151 910

or e-mail steven.castle@arrowplayers.org.uk

HYMN OF THE MONTH

Mike Godden

The hymn “O Worship the King”, based on Psalm 104, tells of God’s glory, might, and care, encouraging us to recognise His power, His love, and the wonders of His Creation. It expresses our gratitude for God’s protection and faithfulness, and celebrates His eternal nature and majesty.

O worship the King,
All glorious above;
O gratefully sing
His power and His love;
Our shield and defender,
The Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendour
And girded with praise.
O tell of His might,
O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light,
Whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath
The deep thunder clouds form,
And dark is His path
On the wings of the storm.
The earth with its store
Of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy power
Hath founded of old;
Hath stablished it fast
By a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast,
Like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care
What tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
It shines in the light;
It streams from the hills,
It descends to the plain,
And sweetly distils
In the dew and the rain.
Frail children of dust,
And feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust,
Nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender,
How firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender,
Redeemer, and Friend.
O measureless might,
Ineffable love,
While angels delight
To hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation,
Though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
Shall sing to Thy praise.

The text of the hymn was written by Robert Grant (1779-1838), and published in 1833 in Edward Bickersteth’s *Christian Psalmody*. Grant’s version is thought to be a reworking of that of Rev. William Kethe in the 1561 *Anglo-Genevan Psalter*. Grant wrote a large number of hymns, but only “O Worship the King” remains in common usage.

Grant was born in Bengal, India, the second son of a Director of the East India Company,. The family returned to Britain in 1790; in 1795 Grant continued his education at Magdalene College, Cambridge, in 1795, and entered into legal practice in 1807. He was elected Member of Parliament in 1818; he represented various constituencies until 1834, when he was appointed Governor of Bombay and was awarded a knighthood.

The tune usually used for the hymn is “Hanover”, composed in 1708 by William Croft (1678-1727). He was a boy chorister in the Chapel Royal in London and then an organist at St. Anne’s, Soho. Later he became organist, composer, and master of the children of the Chapel Royal, and eventually organist at Westminster Abbey. Croft composed a number of hymn tunes, notably “St. Anne”, used for “O God our Help in Ages Past”



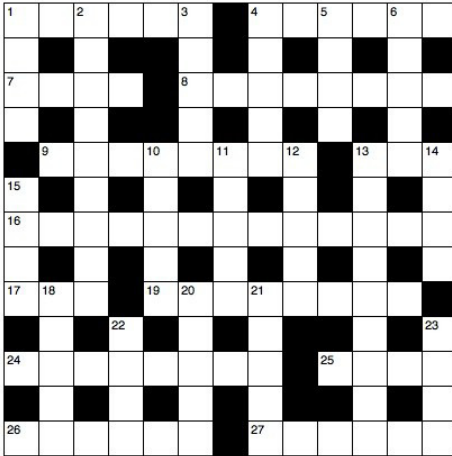
FROM THE ARCHIVES - SEPTEMBER

- 1st Sep 1935 The first Service at St. Edmund’s was held, in the open air.
- 29th Sep 1935 The foundation stone of the first church was laid, by Rev. R. Beresford-Pierce, Vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster Gate - the new building was the gift of an anonymous benefactor from that Church. The total cost was £3300.
- 4th Sep 1952 By Order in the Privy Council St. Edmund’s “conventional district” became the Parish of St. Edmund the King; Fr. Ronald Arthur now was the first Vicar.
- 29th Sep 1963 Lord Silsoe, a Church Commissioner, laid the foundation stone of the new church building. The stone had a piece of stone within it from St. Edmund’s at Bury St. Edmund’s.
- Sep 1966 St. Edmund’s first Flower Festival took place - this lasted for six days and included music and art.
- Sep 1969 The Church was used for a day’s filming of a wedding scene for a ‘silent’ comedy called “Rhubarb”. The stars were Eric Sykes and Harry Secombe; the ‘extras’ used to form the ‘congregation’ included Mike Godden and Liz Morris, and a number of Elizabeth Ambrose’s hats were used by other extras. Ian Hooker’s playing of the organ was used on the soundtrack.
- Sep 1988 The Garden of Remembrance (originally called the Garden of Rest) was opened and dedicated.

August Crossword Solution

S		S		S		C		S		M		F
P	R	I	N	C	E	O	F	P	E	A	C	E
R		N		O		M		U		T		E
I	N	F		U	N	M	A	R	R	I	E	D
N		U		R		I				N		O
G	U	L	A	G		T	R	E	A	S	O	N
	R			E				R			W	
I	N	A	I	D	O	F		A	R	E	N	A
N		T				R	S			M		D
C	A	L	V	I	N	I	S	T		P	A	D
O		A		N		E		I		I		I
M	O	S	E	S	A	N	D	A	A	R	O	N
E		T				T		D		N		E
												G

SEPTEMBER CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (*Psalms 127.1*) (6)
4. Season of the year (*Psalms 84.6*) (6)
7. 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me' (*Matthew 26.38*) (4)
8. It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (*Luke 23.44*) (8)
9. Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (*Acts 17.2*) (8)
13. 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (*Philippians 2.13*) (3)
16. Members of the Church of Scotland (13)
17. 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (*Matthew 5.1*) (3)
19. Mock (*Luke 14.29*) (8)
24. Disgrace (*Psalms 44.13*) (8)
25. First month of the Hebrew calendar (*Exodus 13.4*) (4)
26. Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome (6)
27. Mean (*Numbers 35.23*) (6)

DOWN

1. 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (*Matthew 10.39*) (4)
2. 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (*2 Samuel 14.9*) (5,4)
3. O raid (anag.) (5)
4. 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (*Matthew 18.19*) (5)
5. Take care of (*1 Samuel 17.15*) (4)
6. What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (*Luke 15.25*) (5)
10. 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (*Romans 12.3*) (5)
11. Do ten (anag.) (5)
12. Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)
13. Capable of being used (*1 Kings 7.36*) (9)
14. 'Each one should — his own actions' (*Galatians 6.4*) (4)
15. Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (*1 Kings 10.22*) (4)
18. 'But I am afraid that just — — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (*2 Corinthians 11.3*) (2,3)
20. Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts (5)
21. One of the four sons of Asher (*Genesis 46.17*) (5)
22. Be distressed (*Proverbs 24.19*) (4)
23. He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (*Judges 9.28*) (4)

*The Church of St. Edmund the King has been serving
the Parish of Northwood Hills since 1934.*

*The Parish is in the Harrow Deanery of
the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London*



*Edmund was the devout young King of the East Angles,
martyred by the Danes for his allegiance to Christ
in the year 869 when he was 29 years old.
The crown and arrows of the church crest
symbolise his Kingship and Martyrdom.*

