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**Front Cover Photos: Maggie Crosbie's Licensing service (Rod Hughes) - See article on page 39.**



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## **God with us – for the whole of life**

One of the real joys of being a village vicar is sharing in the big moments of people's lives. Just last month, I had the privilege of taking a wedding in Dewlish. The church looked beautiful with home-grown flowers, and afterwards we all gathered in a marquee on the farm where the couple live. Family and friends had helped with the music, readings and flowers for the service – and later made sure everyone was well fed and watered. With views across the Dorset fields and sheep nearby from the reception, it was the perfect English country wedding.

In recent weeks, I've also led baptisms (christenings) and funerals. Very different occasions, of course, but each one is important in its own way. I always find it moving that, even in today's busy and often secular world, people still want to mark these milestones in church. It reminds me that God isn't just for Sundays, but for the whole of life – from beginning to end, and everything in between.

The Bible gives us some wonderful pictures of this:

- God shaping us in the womb and starting off the story of our lives (Psalm 139).
- Jesus welcoming children and saying, "Let the little ones come to me" (Matthew 19:14).
- Words of encouragement for the busyness of adult life: "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength on wings like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31).
- God caring for us when we are "old and grey-headed" (Isaiah 46.4)
- And a promise of peace at the end of life: "In my Father's house are many rooms" (John 14:2), followed by
- A kingdom of everlasting peace, joy and life (Revelation 21.3-4)

Whatever stage of life we find ourselves in – celebrating, grieving, or just getting on with the everyday – God is with us. And our village churches are here for you too, as places and communities where we can bring both joys and sorrows, and remind ourselves that none of us is ever truly alone.

*With best wishes,*  
*Sarah*

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St Mary's Puddletown		
Intercessors		Scripture Readers
7th September	Dawn Loveless	Judy Bumby
14th September	Puddletown Praise Team	
21st September	Bob Todd	Pat Lindsay
28th September	Jean Jeffreys	Ursula Pomeroy & Paul Fleetwood
Charitable Giving 2025		
Lent		Dorchester Poverty Action
Mothering Sunday		Mosaic
Easter Day		The Salvation Army (Homeless)
Harvest		Water Aid
Christmas		The Children's Society

## BENEFICE REGISTERS

### Baptisms

3rd August	Georgine Anne Stevens Love	Puddletown
17th August	Freddie Paul Woodington Tagg	Puddletown

### Wedding

16th August	Michael Clarke & Elsa Meadows	Dewlish
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### Funeral

D. 17th July	Shirley Veronica Parker - Aged 92	Puddletown
D. 28th July	Caroline Trenchard Wood-Homer - Aged 90	Puddletown
D. 3rd August	Marie Rose Fisher - Aged 87	Puddletown

### Interment of Ashes

12th August	Rosie Gough	Puddletown
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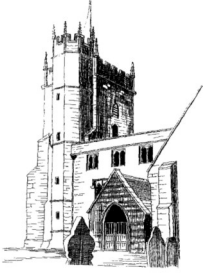
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## St. Mary's Church Events - September

**Pop-in Coffee Mornings** in the Church Room are every Thursday from 10am to 12noon. Everyone (of any age) is welcome. Good coffee and delicious cakes and/or biscuits are always on offer. Come and join us for a sociable hour or two.

**Rosemary's cards** will be available at coffee pop-in on Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Prayer Group** This continues to meet in the church room on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 until 11.30am. All are welcome.

**The Village Lunch** will be on Monday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon in the Village Hall. We will be serving lasagne with salad followed by the usual array of delicious puddings. This must be booked in advance. If you haven't yet booked your place then please contact Sheila on 849193 or 07795 066239 or phone Jean on 848211.

**Ride and Stride** is a sponsored walk that takes place in Dorset every year. Its aim is to raise money for the Dorset Historic Churches Trust which supports all historic churches in the county. This year we shall be walking from St Mary's church, Puddletown, on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Anyone is welcome to join us as we do a local walk, just bring a picnic for your lunch. If you don't want to walk, what about a bike ride visiting as many churches as you can? Or even a sponsored ride on your horse?

If getting sponsored is too difficult, then we would be happy to accept a donation on the day. More information available from Judy on 01305 849146.



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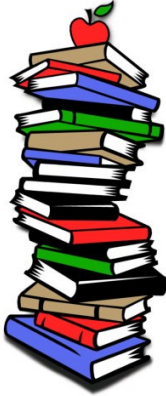
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## FRIENDS OF PUDDLETOWN LIBRARY

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### AGM

**Wednesday 3rd September 2025**

**The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Puddletown Library will be held in the Church Room on the 3rd September at 7.30pm.**

**The business meeting will be followed by a social evening with refreshments. All are welcome.**

The Friends of Puddletown Library became established in 2012 for the benefit of the residents of Puddletown and neighbourhood, running Puddletown Community Library, facilitating activities and events.

We are a Registered Charity (1154773) and the Library is entirely run by our volunteers who also raise funds to cover running costs. If you would like any more information or are interested in supporting us in any way, for example as a volunteer librarian, fundraising or helping with publicity, please do come along or contact us at the email address below. We would love to hear from you!

email: [puddletownlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:puddletownlibrary@gmail.com)

## BENEFICE PRAYER GROUP

Janet Voke and Sue Turner warmly invite you to join them for a time of friendship and prayer for all of us in the benefice.

It will be in the Church Room, Puddletown on Tuesdays from 10.30 until 11.30am.

There will be coffee and conversation from 10.30 and prayers will begin at 11.00.

Do come and join us.

### Prayer Requests

If anyone has any prayer requests for the Benefice Prayer Group, please contact:

Sue Turner - 01305 849030 or Janet Voke - 01258 837550





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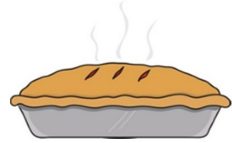
# Puddletown Village Lunch



**Monday 8th September**

**Served at 12.00noon**

**Puddletown Village Hall**



**This month's special is lasagne with salad  
followed by the usual yummy puddings**

**£8.00**

**Please book in advance:**

**Sheila: 07795 066239; Jean: 848211**

## Tower News

**Puddletown, Dorset - St Mary the Virgin**

Thursday, 7 August 2025 in 44m (16-1-18 in E)

**1260 Doubles** (5m/v)

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3	Robin J Mears	4	Ian D Tucker
5	Nick Baker (C)	6	Robert Newton

60th Quarter together 3 & 5.

Rung in Memory of Shirley Veronica Parker Aged 92, who was involved in 13 different organizations in Puddletown & Dorchester.

Shirley was Robin's English Teacher from 1965--1968.

Also to commemorate VJ day.







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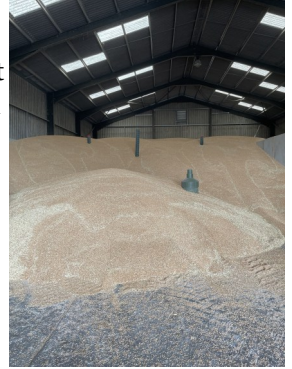
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## Month on the Farm

As I write this in the middle of August the harvest for us has all finished, one of the earliest we have done. Nearly all the grain came in under the required moisture content for selling on with only air being blown through the grain heaps to cool them. If the grain stays warm you can get the grain mites breeding and end up with a problem so the quicker you can cool the grain the better, not always easy with hot days and nights! Generally the yields have been good and certainly a lot better than we were anticipating other than a couple of fields, one on the gravel and one with heavier soil being a little lower yielding. The straw was not as plentiful but it is a nice and bright yellow colour having had next to no rain over the field ripening period.



Some of the winter fodder mix of rape, turnips and radish have been drilled with some already germinating and showing through the ground, but now in desperate need of rain before the tiny plants wither up and die. We are becoming very reliant on the fodder crops growing and producing lots of winter feed for the winter as silage and hay stocks are very depleted with the lack of grass growth over the summer. Some fields that we should have cut twice or even three times have not grown back sufficiently to warrant cutting again and have just had to be grazed. Most groups of cattle are now being fed some rolled barley mix as the grass is now

just dead and brown stalks, here and the fields north of Puddletown as well out just east of Dorchester, though some of the water meadows are just holding up moving them round and round the different fields including those near Dorchester's Greys Bridge.

Over the last month we have been feeding the lambs a nut and barley mix to help them grow on as the hot weather had stopped them putting condition on and they needed a boost to get them away, which has worked well and another load went to Salisbury Market this week.



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Some of the cover crops, which is a mixture of cereal and brassicas, have been drilled with the view that they will use up any surplus nitrogen which was not taken up through the growing cereals, and will produce a good green crop which can then be used as a green manure. Some of the fields are to have a six metre grass margin drilled around them and an area of wild flowers as part of our sustainable farming incentive scheme to encourage the wildlife, bees and bugs to thrive and do their thing!

We have brought some cattle back into the sheds and are feeding them ad lib barley and straw to get them heavier so we can sell them away. We are fortunate in a way that we grow the barley, which is now even cheaper, so we can mill that and feed it to the cattle and sheep, so in effect adding value to the livestock and grain. Some of the wheat has just been sold and is to be moved shortly to feed some pigs, and next week we will be cleaning some of this year's just harvested barley and wheat to drill in October to cut next summer. At least with the early harvest we can go to the local Agricultural Shows without the feeling we should be at home harvesting!

*Wakely Cox*

*12th August 2025*





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# Community Library

Puddletown Library has received positive responses to the distributed leaflets seeking support for the library.

Very special support came from Clara, 8yrs and Theo, 6 yrs who want their library to remain open and with their Mum's assistance they decided to help. On Saturday 26th July outside their home they had a stall all day in the sunshine selling their toys and books for £1 each.

All the library volunteers were amazed and delighted to receive £110 from the sale to add to library funds.

We are so very grateful to Clara, Theo and their Mum for wanting the library to remain open and their generous response.







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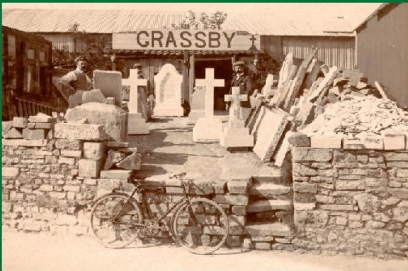
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# The Puddletown Society

Wednesday 10 September 2025

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND OPEN FORUM**

St Mary's Church Room

7.30pm

Wednesday 8 October 2025

## **JANE AUSTEN'S SHINBONE: HER LIFE IN NINE BOOKS**

an illustrated talk by

**Alban O'Brien**

St Mary's Church Room

7.30 pm

For details of the Society please contact the Secretary:

Janet Ranger-Dennis

tel: 07752 634773 e-mail: [janet.ranger@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janet.ranger@yahoo.co.uk)





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# Puddletown

*Are you interested in knowing about where we live?*

*Come along and join a new group.*

*We plan to find out about the people, the houses and events  
over the years by going through the 1724 survey, censuses,  
photographs, maps*

*and other resources to build up the story of the village. This  
won't happen overnight!*

*There will be different ways to get involved, e.g. online  
research from home, cataloguing  
archive material and seeking new information, in order to  
learn together.*

*We also hope to see a new village website for sharing  
current and historical information*

*On Sunday 14 September in St. Mary's Church Room*

*At 2pm a chance to look at some archive documents*

*And at 3pm a discussion to see how the group will develop*

*If you would like to take part but can't come to the meeting  
please email Puddletown Society so we can keep in touch.*

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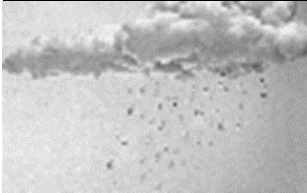


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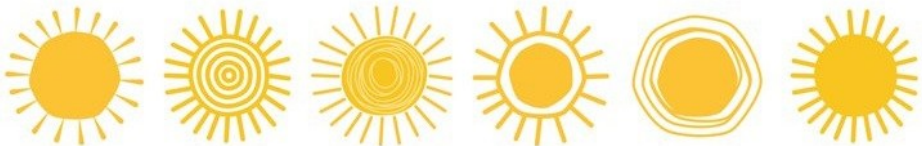


**Sue Adams Law is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority  
under registration number 8003077.**

# Puddletown Weather - July 2025

*Site location (GPS): N 50° 44.937' W 2° 20.862' Altitude 88.39m  
(somewhat sheltered from easterly winds)*

July 2025		
	Rainfall for the month	30.90mm
	Cumulative for the year	372.30mm
	2024 Rainfall for the month	60.00 mm
	2024 Cumulative for the year	514.80 mm
	Temperatures	Max. 30.40° C Min. 7.80° C
	2024	Max. 31.10° C Min. 8.00° C
	Maximum wind speed	16.80 mph
	2024	12.10 mph





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# Jumble Sale News

Wave Connections Community Interest Company (Cic) would like to thank residents of Puddletown & surrounding parishes for the support, donations and attendance at the Jumble Sale on 26th June 2025.

We raised just over £600, along with donations of camp gear.

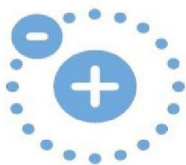
Donations are still coming in.

These funds helped support 10 families: 13 children & 10 parents to attend camp, receive respite & fund forest school / therapeutic activities. Helping combat isolation and marginalisation, offering a network of support for children's emotional well-being, neurodiversity.

Parent feedback included comments such as: 'I can breath again', 'I didn't realise how much I needed this', 'my child gained the confidence to play with other children', 'we relaxed and re connected'.

If you wish to support further feel free to visit [www.waveconnections.org](http://www.waveconnections.org) for more information. Thank you again!





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CLERGY	The Revd Sarah Hillman (Vicar)	07350 414483
	sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com	
LICENSED LAY MINISTER	Margaret Rickard	01305 849332
CHURCHWARDENS	Vacancy (Puddletown)	
	Dawn Loveless (Puddletown)	01305 849 534
	Hilly Cobban (Tolpuddle)	07817 557367
	Jayne Brayshaw (Tolpuddle)	01305 849 314
	Vacancy (Milborne St Andrew)	
	Tony Fox (Milborne St Andrew)	07368 145 584
	Sue Britton (Dewlish)	01258 837 218
	Jim Burg (Dewlish)	01258 837 466
BENEFICE OFFICE	Emma Hughes	
(www.puddletownbenefice.org)	puddletownbenefice@outlook.com	
<b>PUDDLETOWN CONTACTS</b>		
Alcoholics Anonymous		
Area Parish Council		
Area Parish Clerk	Michelle Harrington clerk@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk	01202 670105
Bell Ringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Children's Society		
Church Room	Jane Stanley	01305 848494 07871 169014
COMMUNITY LIBRARY	Run & financed by volunteers	01305 848 506
	puddletownlibrary@gmail.com	
Opening Hours:-	Wednesday: 3.00pm to 5.00pm Friday: 10.00am to 12.00noon Saturday: 10.00am to 12.00noon	
County Councillor	Emma Parker	
Cricket Club	David Stevens	07720 411 952
Cubs, Scouts & Beavers	Barry Thomas www.puddletownscouts.org.uk	01305 852314
Flood Warden	Cllr Richard Green	
Flower Rota	Heather Mears	01305 848 021
Football Club	Steve Brown	07789 821 408
Footpaths & Rights of Way	Michelle Harrington clerk@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk	01202 670105

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<b>DOCTORS</b>		
Puddletown Surgery Dr J Griffiths, Dr C Burnham & Dr J Bond		01305 848 333
Puddletown Surgery (Dispensary)		01305 849 329
Out of hours medical advice & NHS Direct	Out of hours medical advice & NHS Direct	111
Friends of Puddletown Church	Jill Temple friendsofpuddletownchurch@gmail.com	
Friends of Puddletown Library	Paul Poser	01305 848 176
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Gym	Dan Weiss coachdan26@gmail.com	07547 713675
Exercise Classes For All	Sylvia Salcedo sylvia.a.salcedo@gmail.com	07788 101075
Handbells	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Mini-Soccer/Youth Football	Jon Palmer	07891 173 999
Neighbourhood Plan	Clerk to PAPC	
PCC Secretary	Emma Hughes	
PCC Treasurer	David Elliott	07776 256537
Pilates (at the Middle School)	Kathy Ashdown	07967 655159
Puddletown CPPP	www.facebook.com/puddletownplaypark	
Pumpkins Toddler Group	Find us on Facebook or Instagram @puddletownpumpkins	
Puddletown Society	Janet Ranger-Dennis	07752 634773
Puddletown Ukulele Group	Bob Watson bobwatson55@hotmail.com	07725 684 400
Recreational Multi Games Area	David Knight	07890 260 320
Recreation Ground Pavilion	Liz Knight	01305 848 380
Royal British Legion (RBL)	S Ridout	01305 848 940
Rugby Club	Ray Stephens puddletownrhc@hotmail.com	07966 412 467
<b>SCHOOLS</b>		
Pre-school	Sharon Brown www.puddletownpreschool.co.uk	01305 849 533
First School (Head of School)	Mrs A Seal www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk	01305 848 206
St Mary's CE Middle School	Mr Tim Ennion	01305 848 293

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Short Mat Bowls	Mervyn Harris	07794 787588 (Mervyn) 01305 849 049 (Sue) mervynharris981@btinternet.com
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Tree Warden	Cllr John Ridout cllrjridout@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk
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Village Hall Caretaker/Bookings	Kevin Smith (puddletownvh@gmail.com)	07706 798271
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Village Hall Committee Secretary	Amy Knight	01305 848602
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Young Farmers (Dorset)	01305 263 947
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**TOLPUDDLE CONTACTS**

Defibrillator (outside Martyrs Inn)	Clare & Roger Angus	07720 059035 or 01305 848286
Orchard Meadow	Clerk to PAPC	
PCC Secretary	Heather Saunders	
PCC Treasurer	John Taylor	01305 848 552
Physio-Led Pilates	Sam Buxton	samjbuxton31@gmail.com
Pilates	Kathy Ashdown	07967 655159
Tolpuddle Events Committee	Ian Cray	
Tolpuddle Home Group	Shirley & Richard Woolford	01305 849539
Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust		info@tolpuddleoldchapeltrust.org
Tolpuddle Toddler Group	Maria Palmer	07717 506020
Tolpuddle Village Meeting	Tyra Nozaic Goosen, Clerk.	tolpuddlemeeting@yahoo.com
Tolpuddle Village Show	Jo Austwick	austwickjoanne@gmail.com.
Tolpuddle & Southover Village Website	www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk	tolpuddlevillagewebsite@gmail.com
Village Hall Bookings Sec.	Jo Austwick	tolpuddlevhinfo@gmail.com
Village Hall Chairman	Peter Walton pdwalton@btinternet.com	01305 848 034
Yoga (Iyengar)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053

**USEFUL & EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

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Dorset County Hospital		01305 251 150
Electricity Failure	(Southern Electric)	0800 0727 282
Gas Leak or a smell of gas		0800 111 999
POLICE—Local Officers	PC Moore 0229 & PSCO Alison Donnison 6500	101 or "Contact Us" section on Dorset Police Website



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<b>DEWLISH CONTACTS</b>		
Cricket	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837 696
Parish Council	Chris Udens (Chair)	07973 167117
Parish Clerk	Amanda Crocker dewlish@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
Village Hall (Chair)	Andrew Barnett	07551 839296
Village Hall (Sec)	Alex Carter	01258 837 312
<b>MILBORNE ST ANDREW CONTACTS</b>		
Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
Archery	Mike Healy	01300 342 134
Bellringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Busy Bees Group (Under 5s)	Claire Tudge	07970 734 162
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837 089
Food & Wine Club	Steve O'Neill	07490 691 121
Gardening Club	Bill Love	01258 837 677
Ladybirds Playgroup	Samantha Mercer	07767 450967
Milborne First School	Michelle Cheeseman (Head)	01258 837 362
Milborne Players	Gren Davis	07876 793 319
Nightsabre Dog Training Group	Natasja Lewis	07896 275 357
Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470 333
Parish Council	Richard MacNair (Chair)	07774 081 551
	Wayne Lewin (Clerk)	07419 136 735
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	07983 013 781
Pilates (at First School)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Scout Group	Sam Elliott	07873 762 035
Sports Club	Philip Smith (& Bookings)	07776 561 105
Tap Dancing (Adults)	Kevin Selby	01305 250 386
Tennis - Member's Secretary	Rich Hawker	07983 013 781
Village Hall	Linsey O'Neill (Chair) chair.msavh@gmail.com	07798 720 812
	Susan Poet (Bookings)	07866 313 999
Wednesday Social Club	Josie Wright	01258 839 090
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471 732
Yoga—at Milborne Sports Pavilion	Sue Chapman (Iyengar yoga)	01305 848 053
Yoga—at Village Hall	Angela Johnson	01258 839 060



## St John's Church Tolpuddle September 2025

The summer holidays will soon be over and the children back at school- many starting for the first time, others changing schools or off to University - so big changes all round. The church also has its seasons.

Currently we are in what is known as Trinity season - the end of the Church year leading towards Advent, where the focus is on the teachings and works of Jesus, and the life of the Church. Our regular services continue -

First Sunday - Parish Communion 9.30

Second Sunday - Reflection 5.30

Third Sunday - Parish Communion 9.30

Fourth Sunday - Go Fourth and Coffee 10.00

Another regular date in our calendars is **Ride and Stride**, raising money for the charity Dorset Historic Churches Trust – this year it is to be held on Saturday September 13<sup>th</sup>. We are again holding a group event for anyone in the village to join together in walking the woods and byways around our beautiful village. As usual there will be refreshments in the church afterwards as a reward for our stoical walkers - do join us. For those who don't want to walk, there are other ways to help this worthwhile cause, serving tea and cakes in the church for visiting Striders or sponsoring our local walkers - to find out more contact me - on [jayne.brayshaw9@yahoo.com](mailto:jayne.brayshaw9@yahoo.com) - or refer to the Village Facebook. We have set up a joint JustGiving page for donations - search [tolpuddle-ride-and-stride-2025](#) on the [JustGiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com) page

Our Harvest Supper is planned for Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup>- this is always a fun occasion and tickets sell very quickly so don't miss out - contact Jayne ([jayne.brayshaw9@yahoo.com](mailto:jayne.brayshaw9@yahoo.com)) or Heather ([heather@heathersaunders.co.uk](mailto:heather@heathersaunders.co.uk)).

We accept that the congregation is much diminished in line with general trends but we are aware that the church is of great importance as a presence in the village. We are grateful for all the community support for our events. We hope that you all feel a real warm welcome when you join us for a service or even to spend some quiet time on your own in the church. The churchyard is also a place of peace - just to sit on the bench outside can revive one's spirits. We have to thank Morten for organising the churchyard team and keeping the Living Churchyard as glorious as the hot sun would allow this year. Please contact him if you feel you would like to join him occasionally- [mortimusmaximus00@gmail.com](mailto:mortimusmaximus00@gmail.com)

As we come to the end of a very warm summer, we are looking forward to a cooler and hopefully damper time, as our farmers and gardens are crying out for water. Now we can look forward to enjoying the Autumnal colours of our countryside.

With best wishes to you all

*Jayne*

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As our population grows, we also need a transport system that works for everyone. The Local Transport Plan will help us plan for better public transport, safer walking and cycling routes and unlock future funding for improvements.

The council wants to hear from residents of all ages, backgrounds and communities. Your views will help shape the places we live, the way we travel, and the future we pass on to the next generation.

You can view the plans and have your say online at: [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorset-is-changing](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorset-is-changing) ( or search Dorset is changing).

Consultations run from 18 August to 13 October.

You can also speak with people from the council at events across the county or view the local plan consultation document in your local library.

Contact Information: Catriona Fountain

[catriona.fountain@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:catriona.fountain@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

We will be holding drop in events:

Dorchester Corn Exchange, Thursday 11 September, 2-7 pm

Weymouth Library, Friday 12 September, 10 am - 5pm

Crossways Village Hall, Tuesday 23 September, 2-7 pm



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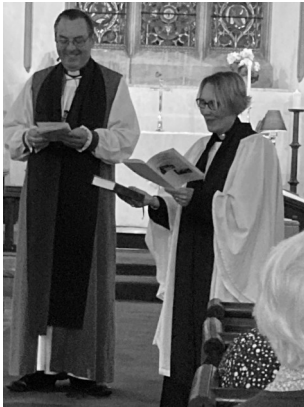
David Holah BVSc CertZooMed MRCVS

## Maggie Crosbie - Licensed to Worship.

Who remembers Maggie, who with her cat Stanley, moved gracefully into Puddletown as a much needed curate. She soon was refreshing services and lending her own 'brand' of ministry. Emma and I were equally lucky when Maggie and Stanley moved in just up the road from us and we soon were being updated on Stanley's various attempts to reduce the local wildlife. Sadly, family issues took our wonderful curate from us but we still remained in touch

It was with a great delight , but no surprise, when we heard of the upcoming licensing and installing of Maggie as vicar of Wootton and Shippon Nr Abingdon. So on the 11<sup>th</sup> August, Emma, myself and the boys set out to join some others to attend the licensing service at St. Mary Magdalen church at Shippon. On our way we called in at the vicarage and had a tour of the extensive garden which Stanley loved and I'm sure will give the new vicar plenty of new culinary projects.

When we arrived at the church we were astounded at the thronging multitude of well-wishers who had turned up; there was a whole minibus full from Shaftesbury. Maggie had previously let on to us just how excited she was although nervous at being the centre of attention.

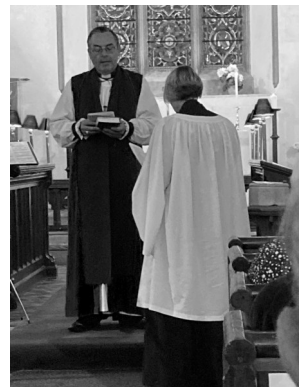


Maggie certainly looked like she was enjoying every minute of it. The service itself was being taken by the Right Revd. Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester who was quite a character. The service progressed without any problems. Maggie beaming away as it was obvious she was thoroughly enjoying every second.

At the end of the service there was one moment of hilarity when people were invited to meet the new vicar and the Bishop only to discover both were missing! Both were soon discovered, already disrobed and wine in hand having already visited the refreshment hall. It was truly a lovely event and one that Maggie thoroughly deserved. I expect great

things from the new vicar of Wootton and Shippon and look forward, in the future, to attending a service there; anyways I will need to be updated on Stanley's nocturnal missions.

*Rod Hughes*





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## Notes from St Andrew's

"All is safely gathered in" for another year, as far as the grain is concerned. There are apples and plums in abundance, and blackberries and other hedgerow fruits are everywhere! The brown fields tell of a dry summer.

Church life has continued as usual. It has been good to welcome several visitors to our Services throughout the summer months, and to receive positive feedback about the services and the welcome and hospitality received. Services during September follow the usual rota, with the Parish Eucharist on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month and lay-led services on the first (Tony) & third (Pam) Sundays.

We have a Wedding in Milborne on September 13th, quite a rare occurrence in the village. As Sarah is on holiday, The Reverend Keith McGee, Rector of Dorchester, is coming to officiate, and he will be the Celebrant at the Parish Eucharist the following day, when we observe Holy Cross Day.

Advance notice of our Harvest Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, 5th October at 9.30 a.m. Tony will lead the service, as is usual on the first Sunday of the month. He had quite a shock at the August Service when he discovered that a visitor in the pew was a priest from Ringmer, East Sussex. He was glad to learn that fact *\*after\** the service. Milborne First School will be in St Andrew's for their Harvest service on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> October; we look forward to welcoming staff, pupils, friends and families.

We hope to begin work on the floors in the toilet cubicles now. We are grateful to all those who have contributed to the appeal for funds to enable us to carry out this work. We are hoping to organise a "thank you" for our donors and benefactors. More to follow! We have had a new light installed in the Tower, and a heater, so that the Bellringers can keep warm and see each other during the darker months, and two heaters are being replaced in the Chancel.

*Tony (Churchwarden)*



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## *We need you!*

*Puddletown Cub group is in need of new leaders. The pack has been going for 10 years and needs new leaders to keep this brilliant opportunity for young people (Ages 8-10) in the village going. Help them develop life skills, friendships and have fun! No prior experience is needed, just a willingness to work with young people and like-minded adults. There is a wealth of online training opportunities and you will need a DBS check. Currently Cubs meet on a Friday evening in the village hall (this could move to a Wednesday evening). If you are interested and would like to know more please contact [tiger@puddletownscouts.org.uk](mailto:tiger@puddletownscouts.org.uk)*





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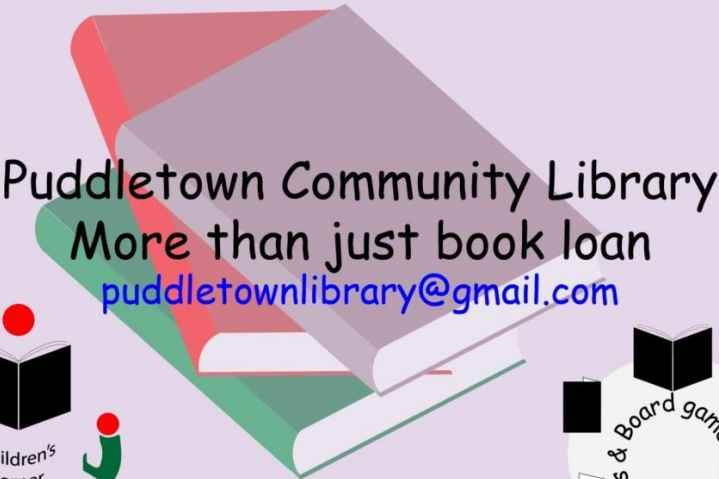
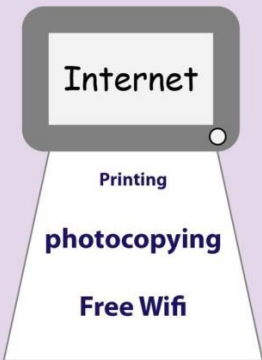
TICKETS

TO INCLUDE GLASS OF WINE  
£15 IN ADVANCE  
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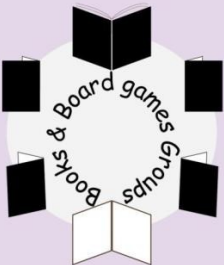
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IN AID OF PUDDLETOWN COMMUNITY LIBRARY  
CHARITY NO. 1154773





The library welcomes  
new volunteers  
to help run the library



LIBRARY HOURS:  
Wednesday 3pm-5pm  
Friday 10am-12pm  
Saturday 10am-12pm



## PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL

As summer winds down, here's your update from the Parish Council, covering everything from local safety improvements and neighbourhood planning to bus shelters, playparks, and planning decisions. Here are the key highlights from our August meeting.

**Youth Council Progress:** Following the Youth Council's report on the Coombe Road footpath, Dorset Council Highways has referred the matter to the Road Safety Team, who have been chased for feedback. Dorset Waste Partnership is considering moving a bin to improve access but warns of a two-year backlog. They've also advised that the Parish Council cannot relocate the bin themselves due to underground utility risks. The Council will continue pressing for action.

**Keeping Our Spaces Safe and Enjoyable:** Playparks: Butt Close and Orchard Meadow had no new issues this month. At Puddletown Rec, the away dugout is leaning, and as a result PRIDE has been asked to repair it.

**Defibrillators:** Both Parish Council units are in working order. The British Heart Foundation has reopened its 2025 defibrillator grant scheme, and the Clerk has applied for funding, for a new defibrillator in Tolpuddle by the Martyrs Museum, results expected within eight weeks.

**Car Park Maintenance:** Contractors are aiming to repair the Puddletown Play Park Car Park over the Christmas break. However, this is weather dependant and timings could change.

**Bus Shelter:** A contractor has been contacted for a quote to supply and install a new bus shelter in Tolpuddle. Due to the distance, they may need to subcontract the installation, so the quote may take time.

**Neighbourhood Plan Review:** The Council approved commissioning a consultant to conduct a basic review of the Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan at an approximate cost of £3,750. A working group including all councillors will be formed to assess project needs.

**Planning & Licensing Decisions:** The Council discussed and responded to two applications this month:

Woods Cottage, Puddletown – To fell a foxglove tree: Council Comment - No objection.

Manor Farm, Lower Waterston – To add solar panels to the recently approved agricultural barn for calves: Council Comment - No objection.

As always, you can find full details and decisions on the Dorset Council planning website.



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## Puddletown Community Library

The winners of the 200 club draw for August are:

1st prize - No publicity £40

2nd prize - Diana Wilson £20

3rd prize - Pauline Clayton £10



# Community Library

**Correspondence & Representation:** The Parish Council agreed to submit its response to the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils (DAPTC) “A Fresh Start” survey. The Survey focus is the potential for towns and parishes to play an expanded role, and the urgent need for a more effective working relationship between them and Dorset Council.

**Ongoing & Future Items:** The Council will review potential venues for the April 2026 meeting in Tolpuddle due to a hall booking clash. Repairs to the Puddletown War Memorial will also be on the next agenda.

**Next Council Meeting:** Our meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between Puddletown Village Hall and Tolpuddle Village Hall. However, our September meeting has been cancelled due to an internal schedule conflict. If an urgent matter arises an Extra Ordinary meeting will be called. Our next meeting is Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025, at 7pm in the Tolpuddle Village Hall. Please come and join us and have your say.

**Parish Council contact details:** (Please remember to give permission for your details to be shared with Councillors, but note your details will NOT be shared with anyone else)

Clerk: Michelle Harrington, Telephone: 01202 670105,

Email: [clerk@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk), Write: 34 Egmont Road, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ, Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/PuddletownAPC/)

PuddletownAPC/, Website: <http://www.puddletownareaparishcouncil.co.uk>

That’s all for this month’s update. Thank you for continuing to stay involved. As always, your ideas and feedback are welcome, and please don’t hesitate to get in touch.



*As far as Reg could tell, the burglar had  
disturbed nothing in the vestry*



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Make a difference to the lives of parents and children
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- Learn new skills
- Make friends & connect with your community

**If you could give as little as two hours a week to support a parent and their children, we would love to hear from you:**



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## Dewlish Church Notes

GOSH! Where has the summer gone? Here I am writing about our plans for fund-raising in the autumn, so important as we have just received our insurance bill for £2,126.62p!

**Harvest Festival** will be held at the church on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 6.0pm. We shall be very glad to receive your gifts either on the Saturday or at the actual service.

We shall be pleased, too, to welcome a good congregation – after all, we have so much to be grateful for! Our garden produce has been wonderful, and I do hope the farmers have had a good harvest too.

On the Monday evening (6<sup>th</sup> October) we are holding our **Annual Harvest Supper** in the Village Hall at 7.0pm. We are hoping for a really good attendance. Tickets are priced the same as last year at £9 for adults and £5 for children under 14. Please bring your own drinks, and wine glasses if you choose to have some wine. Afterwards, we shall have the usual **Auction** of harvest produce.

This year the charity to receive the proceeds will be WaterAid, with the supper profit going towards church expenses. Please book through Daphne or Jim (01258-837466), or at the Village Coffee Morning.

Finally, Jim will be taking part once again in the **Ride 'n' Stride** event on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Participants journey round as many churches as they can to raise money for maintenance and restoration, the proceeds being shared between Dorset Historic Churches Trust and, in our case, Dewlish All Saints'. DHCT recently celebrated its 65<sup>th</sup> birthday with an all-county reception at Milton Abbey. All donations will be very welcome. Thank you.

*Daphne Burg*

## Answers to last month's crossword puzzle.

**ACROSS:** 1, Amazed. 4, Others. 8, Peter. 9, Zebedee. 10, Accuser. 11, Endue. 12, Scripture. 17, Shrub. 19, Abashed. 21, Foolish. 22, Upset. 23, Loathe. 24, Lesser.

**DOWN:** 1, Appeal. 2, Attacks. 3, Earns. 5, Tableau. 6, Ended. 7, Shekel. 9, Zarephath. 13, Rubbish. 14, Ephesus. 15, Useful. 16, Editor. 18, Rhoda. 20, Abuse.





## Celebrating 200 years of the public railroads

Two hundred years ago, on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1825, the world's first public railway opened. It was the Stockton and Darlington Railway in north-east England.

Inspired and supported by a prominent Quaker, Edward Pease, and backed financially by many Quakers nationally, it has been described as “the great theatre of railway operations”, sparking the explosion of railways across the world and boosting the industrial revolution. About 20 miles of the original 25 mile stretch still exist, now as part of the Northern Rail line.

The technical expertise behind it all came from George Stephenson, an extraordinary self-taught engineer whose expertise, which originated in the mines, stretched beyond railways. His *Locomotion No 1*, built for the Stockton and Darlington line, was the first steam locomotive to carry passengers on a public rail line. He worked with his 18-year-old son Robert, who is known for creating the more famous *Rocket* four years later.

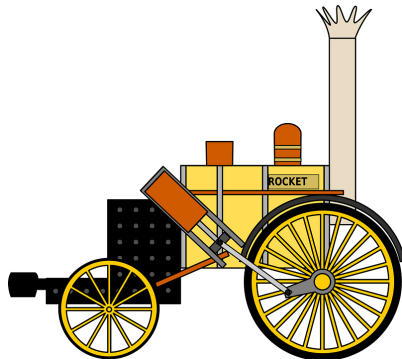
The first Stockton and Darlington train – which in fact ran from Old Etherley Colliery, some distance north of Darlington – was led by a man on horseback with a flag. The motto of the organising committee was “At private risk for public service”.

With brakemen stationed between the wagons, the train reached 12 to 15mph and was greeted by an estimated 10,000 people at the Darlington junction, where some passengers left and more boarded. The average speed was calculated at about 8mph. Six wagons of coal were given to the poor by way of celebration.

A nine-month festival in County Durham and the Tees Valley – with artwork, spectacles and community events – is marking the bicentenary of the opening of the railway.

As a tribute to his life and achievements, a bronze statue of George Stephenson was unveiled at Chesterfield railway station in 2005. An earlier statue stands in Neville Street, Newcastle.

More info at: <https://railway200.co.uk>, <https://www.railwaymuseum.org.uk>



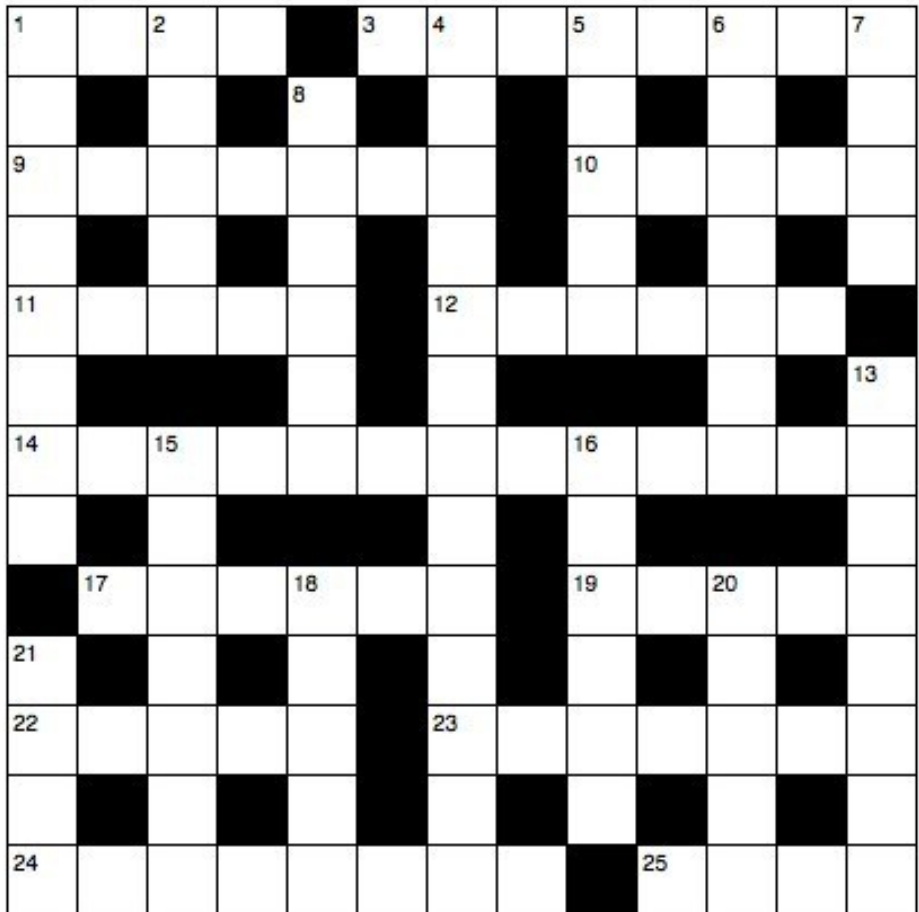
## Crossword clues for September 2025

### Across

- 1 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3 Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9 They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11 Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th- century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)
- 22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)
- 23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)
- 24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)
- 25 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

### Down

- 1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6 Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15 CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)
- 18 One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20 Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21 Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)



# Puddletown Pumpkins

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## **MORNING PRAYERS (Mon. – Thurs. 8.30 a.m.; Sat. 9.00 a.m.)**

On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman ([sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com](mailto:sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com)) for the link (Please note that the calendar of services may be subject to change)

## Services in the Benefice

### 7th September - Trinity 12

**Psalm 1; Deuteronomy 30.15-20; Luke 14.25-33**

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Milborne Praise	Milborne
11.00am	Parish Communion + Holy Baptism	Puddletown
11.00am	BCP Morning Prayer	Dewlish
3.00pm	Holy Baptism	Puddletown

### Saturday 13th September

2.00pm	Marriage of Richard Pye & Molly Ryan	Milborne
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### 14th September - Holy Cross Day

**Psalm 22.23-28; Numbers 21.4-9; John 3.13-17**

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00am	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish
5.30pm	Sunday Reflections	Tolpuddle

### 21st September - St Matthew

**Psalm 119.65-72; Proverbs 3.13-18; Matthew 9.9-13**

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Worship in Stillness	Milborne
11.00am	Parish Communion + Holy Baptism	Puddletown
11.00am	Family Service	Dewlish

### 28th September - Trinity 15/Harvest

**Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6.6-19; Luke 16.19-31 / Psalm 100; Philippians 4.4-9; John 6.25-35 (TP)**

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00am	Go Fourth Harvest	Tolpuddle
11.00am	BCP Matins	Puddletown
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

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