



Hampton – Fairfield – Thistledown – Eastwick Park – Charity Crescent

THE HERALD



Taste and see that the Lord is good.
The Lord's words are sweeter to me than honey.
Ps 34:8, Ps 119:103

Office Email

Please note the email address for the Parish Office:
office@hamptonchurch.org.uk

Vicar and Rector	Rev Michael Edwards mike@evesham.church
Honorary Assistant Priests	The Revd Patrick Wooster Tel: (01386) 45907
Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers)	Elaine Major (01386) 40722 Laura Hillman (01386) 41574 Helen Black 07790 878922
Parish Administrator Caryl Mills, is working from home She will be in Church on Friday mornings	The Parish Office is not available at the moment (01386) 446381 not in use at the moment To contact: email: office@hamptonchurch.org.uk Tel: 07846 281 759
Church Wardens	
St Andrew's, Hampton	Margaret Thomson (01386) 47541 (Lead) Jane Wisniewski (01386) 48186

The Herald is published monthly on the last Sunday of the month prior to the publication date. Items for inclusion should be received by 5th of the month prior to the publication date or by special agreement.

Articles are submitted on the understanding that they may be edited to fit the available space.

Articles can be submitted by email to: editor@hamptonchurch.org.uk

or sent to the editor at The Parish Office, c/o St Andrew's Church, Pershore Road, WR11 2PQ
 Large Print editions of the magazine are available on request.



Message from the Archdeacon of Dudley, Nikki Groarke

One of the many things I love about serving in the Diocese of Worcester is the huge variety of churches we have – large buildings, tiny ones, churches in the middle of fields, churches in the middle of road junctions in market towns, modern buildings on estates, historic listed buildings in villages, our sp0ledid cathedral That's before we even begin to think about the people meeting in them and their church tradition and worship style! We have evangelical churches, Anglo-Catholic churches, new worshipping communities, churches offering worship to God in so many wonderfully different ways.

Bishop Hugh and I reflected on this one Sunday in late July, when after a lunchtime gathering, the two of us, and Bishop Martin, were heading off to three significant gatherings all with a couple of miles of each other in urban Dudley.

Bishop Martin was at a deanery confirmation service in Christ Church, Quarry Bank, a gently growing church in the central tradition where five people from across a few deanery churches who had found faith were marking that step. Bishop Hugh was at Top Church, one of our renewal churches. He was also confirming some new Christians, baptising others, and formally welcoming people from

different denominations into the Church of England, in an intergeneration service with a contemporary worship band. Just up the road from there in St Mary's Church, Kingswinford, one of our more Anglo-Catholic parishes, I was licensing the current Priest-in-Charge to his new role as Rector. Father Adam had taken the opportunity to showcase the parish choral tradition in this service, and he and his worship director had gathered a scratch choir of nearly fifty singers from across seven churches to joyfully sing evensong – it was glorious!

Each of these three services enabled people to connect with the God who loves them, to celebrate new life and a journey of discipleship, and to build community with fellow followers of Jesus. Throughout that day, this had also happened in other sacred spaces across the



diocese. Within this breadth and variety we hope there is somewhere for everyone to find and grow in faith, somewhere they will fit in and feel at home. No one tradition or way of being church is better than the other, all are different expressions of the body of Christ, and I delight in what each has to offer. Thanks be to God!

Nikki

The Licensing of Mike Edwards as the Curate in Charge of All Saints Church, Evesham and St Andrew's Church, Hampton



On Saturday 15 August, it was our pleasure to attend the licensing service of our new Curate-in-Charge, Mike Edwards. The service took place at All Saints Church, Evesham which is now joined as one benefice with Hampton St Andrew's.

The Service was conducted by Bishop Hugh, the Bishop of Worcester, with the Area Dean and the Archdeacon Mark Badger, and was attended by members of Hampton and Evesham churches and Bengeworth, St Peter's where Mike has been curate for the past few years.



There were representatives from other local churches, schools and organisations, Christ Church Oxford and also members of Mike's family and friends.

As church wardens of St Andrew's, Jane and I were asked to formally welcome Mike to our church family.

He was also welcomed by the wardens of All Saints, the local schools, Scout and Guide groups, churches of other denominations and the Mayor of Evesham, Mr Kimberly, who also stated he was welcoming Mike to Hampton, as he himself is a proud Hampton resident.

I am sure you will all join us in welcoming Mike and his family into our community – they are moving into a house in Cheltenham Rd.

Mike will be conducting morning prayer at 9:15 every Monday and Wednesday morning at St Andrews Church. He would love you to join him if you can.



Hi first service at St Andrews will be on 6 September during which he will bless children's school bags, as they prepare to return to school for the new school year. We look forward to seeing as many of you as can to attend our services to welcome Mike into our community

Margaret Thomson

In our Thoughts and Prayers

Prayer for Children returning to school for the new term

Dear Lord, September – the month of new starts!
New terms, new groups, new friends, new hopes, every year.

Lord, be with us!

Lord, thank you for the new start you offer us when we put our trust in Jesus.

A new start that we make once – and then can renew every day.

Every time we falter, you pick us up. Every time we come back to you, you forgive us and accept us.

Thank you, Lord, for never letting us down, for never leaving or forsaking us, that new starts with you are always possible, not just in September.

In Jesus' name, **Amen**



Prayer from Chiara Lubich, founder of the Focolare Movement.

Lord, may I ever speak as though it were the last word that I can speak.

May I ever act as though it were the last action that I can perform.

May I ever suffer as though it were the last pain I can offer.

May I ever pray as though it were for me on earth the last chance to speak to you.

For all those who are sick, in special need or house- bound:

Gary Andrews; Mary Andrews; Maureen Brown; Sheila Donnahey; Harry Edwards;
Nancy Gould; Jenny Lamb; Shirley Lynch; Joan Parry; Steven Rhodes; Wayne Ryan;
Marguerite Smith; Carol Thould; Jennifer, Sheilah Wright

For those who have died, and all who mourn them:

Clifford Petch, Richard Falkiner, Anthony Ballard and Pauline O'Connell.



Summer Fete

There will be no Summer Fete this year

However, we will be looking to organise a special event in the autumn.

If you wish to join a team to think of a suitable event and prepare for it, please speak to Jane or Margaret.

All welcome to help raise funds for our lovely church.

St Andrew's Church

Mike Edwards

Mike was licenced as Curate in Charge of All Saints' Evesham and St Andrew's Hampton on Saturday 15 August in All Saints Church, by the Right Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of Worcester and The Venerable Mark Badger, Archdeacon of Worcester. His first services at St Andrew's will be on Morning Prayer on Wednesday 1 September at 9.15am, and Morning Praise on Sunday 6 September, when he will be conducting a School Bag Blessing service.

St Andrew's Church - Safeguarding Information

We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at: <http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding>.

Our Safeguarding Officer: Margaret Thomson 07917 726411.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Hilary Highton, can be contacted on 07495 060 869.

If you have concerns about the immediate safety of someone, please don't delay, dial 999 and ask for the police.

Contact us: St Andrews Church, Pershore Road, Hampton, WR11 2PQ.
office@hamptonchurch.org.uk 07846 281759

Benefice Office

To contact Caryl in the office, please email on office@hamptonchurch.org.uk or telephone on 07946 281 759. Caryl will be available at the church on **Friday** mornings, and a post box is available at the church for messages.



ST ANDREW'S TOTS HAMPTON GUIDE & SCOUT HALL

Tuesdays in term time 9.00-11.00

Starts again on Tuesday 15 September

We look forward to welcoming all our families with children aged 0-5

Continuing works in Church

The font is shedding stone and there are cracks in the floor at front of the altar. We are employing a conservator to prepare a report. The five yearly inspection showed issues with the Apex Cross, and this will be repaired. The Faculty for the repair of the clock has been received, and we are waiting for a repair schedule from Time Assured.

Stay, Play and Pray

This Summer St Andrews church has had many children attending Stay Play and Pray a holiday playscheme run on a Tuesday morning throughout the Summer.

This scheme began because parents attending the Tots group during term time said they were concerned as to what to do throughout the summer when many had the toddler's older siblings at home from school. So we decided to open up throughout the holiday, offering activities for the older children and toddlers.



Last year we were kindly donated some money from the Flower Show funds when it closed. So, I was able to purchase a goal post and some games for the older children, and some sensory equipment for the younger ones.

We were also concerned that many children who would normally get a free school meal at lunchtime would not have this throughout the summer holidays, so we decided to offer a free breakfast to everyone. Last year a local childminder donated breakfasts and this year we are very grateful to Chris at Hampton Farm shop for donating fruit each week and to the Spar Shop who have given us Milk, bread and cereal every week –A Great Big Thank You to both for your generosity and kindness One of the grandparents who attend the group has an allotment and her donations of produce have been very welcome too.

Members of St Andrews Church offer their time free of charge and are dedicated to making sure the group runs as smoothly as possible, and that we serve the families in the Hampton area. I would also like to thank everyone who came to help – particularly Pippa Henly who has helped at the tots group since it opened about 17 years ago! And now gives up her summer Tuesdays too!!!!

This year I was able to use our funds to pay a local singer and Zumba teacher to do a few sessions for us. The older children enjoyed Zumba, whilst the younger ones did Zumbini with their parents – what Fun!!

The toddler group and Stay Play and Pray are free to users and the church offers this as part of their mission – so we are grateful to the funds we receive, as a church, from the John Martin Trust, and for any donations people put in the box We wish all our older children all the best for the new school term.

St Andrews Tots Group resumes on 15 September

Margaret Thomson

Reflected Faith Series: The Peace

Editor: The Revd Dr Jo White continues her series on aspects of Christianity

Last time we reflected on the time of 'Intercessions' within our service. This month, we consider what comes next.

In a Common Worship Communion service, the 'Peace' comes straight after the Intercessions. There is no such thing with a Book of Common Prayer (BCP) service. A time of sharing 'The Peace' is not restricted to Communion services, but may take place in other services also.

It does not have to follow the Intercessions, but instead could also be held towards the start or end of the service.

Where you place 'the Peace' is significant: having it at the beginning emphasises the community coming together, whilst towards the end of the service might be to emphasise the importance of being together that encourages and enables us to take God with us into our everyday lives.

But why have it at all? Haven't we all come together to this service to worship the same God? To be together with others who think and believe as we do?

Hopefully yes, but sometimes we just need a visible sign of that very unity and a reminder that we are a part of this community where we are, as well as a part of the wider church across the world.

It is so easy to forget this. To just go on repeat and not be conscious of this enormous honour that we have to 'meet together in His presence'.

'Sharing the peace' - however we do that - with one another is a demonstrative act of community. Everyone is included.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you – And also with you.

This month

Where is 'The Peace' placed within your service and what do you think is the reason for that? Does making a physical connection – however you do that – with those around you make a difference to your thinking about 'community'?

THE 2C'S MONTHLY TEAS
NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH MEETING ROOM
Next Two C's – 27 September 2026 from 2.30 – 4.30

Events Update – September 2026

St Andrew's Tots	Tues	1 Sept NO TOTS TODAY	Scout & Guide Hall
Coffee Club	Tues	1 Sept 2.00pm	Farm Shop
Schools Return	Wed	2 September	Hampton
St Andrew's Tots	Tues	8 Sept NO TOTS TODAY	Scout & Guide Hall
Coffee Club	Tues	8 Sept 2.00pm	Farm Shop
Open Church	Sat	12 Sept 10.00 – 12.00	Hampton
St Andrew's Tots	Tues	15 Sept 9.00am	Scout & Guide Hall
Coffee Club	Tues	15 Sept 2.00pm	Farm Shop
St Andrew's Tots	Tues	23 Sept 9.00am	Scout & Guide Hall
Coffee Club	Tues	23 Sept 2.00pm	Farm Shop
Solemn Mass	Sun	27 September 10.00	St Andrew's Church
		Celebration of Patrick Wooster's 60th Anniversary of Ordination	
2 C's	Sun	27 Sept 2.30pm-4.30pm	St Andrew's Church
St Andrew's Tots	Tues	30 Sept 9.00am	Scout & Guide Hall
Coffee Club	Tues	30 Sept 2.00pm	Farm Shop

From the Registers – June/July 2026

Baptisms		
21 June	Esmae and Sienna Jones	Hampton
19 July	Francesca Knight	Hampton
Weddings		
13 June	Jeremy Hands and Davina Purchase	Hampton
Burial of Ashes		
2 June	Eugenia Leisaunieks	Hampton
16 June	Raymond Kelly	Hampton



Clergy at St Andrew's from 1949 to present day

A series of Articles sent in by John Smith - Part 1

Revd. R.W.N. Harris (Reg) 1949 - 1966

Revd. Harris came to St. Andrews in 1949 from St. Kitts in the Caribbean. When he arrived it was a very cold winter and as you can imagine, he found the temperatures very difficult to manage. He spent most mealtimes and evenings with my grandparents at their home in Pershore Road. I remember him walking back to the Vicarage with water bottles tucked under his cloak. His wife Ruth arrived later. She was the daughter of the Bishop of St. Kitts and was accustomed to having servants, so she had to learn to cook and customise herself to English life. I remember one of the daughters attending Hampton Primary School and bringing a sample of sugar cane to explain how sugar was obtained back home on St. Kitts. The family had rather a tragic life whilst at Hampton, especially during a return holiday to St. Kitts. Their youngest son lost his life in the ocean. Another memory I have during their stay at the Vicarage was of a donkey peering over the split kitchen door waiting to be fed.

Both Frances and I attended confirmation classes at the Vicarage and were married by Revd. Harris in April 1966. During his stay at Hampton we had a Curate (Revd. B.G.G. Marshall) who had trained at Murfield and lived in Cheltenham Road.

Mrs. Harris died prior to the Vicar retiring and moving to Littleton to live with his eldest daughter. I remember him standing at the porch door thanking everyone for attending his wife's funeral service.

Revd B.G.G. Marshall – Curate

Revd. Marshall came to the Ministry following a spell in the teaching profession. He set up St. Richard's church in Fairfield, and was extremely popular, particularly with the younger residents of the area who nicknamed him "Dracula" due his flowing cloak, when riding his bicycle. He was very successful at Fairfield, filling the church to capacity and having a choirmaster and full complement of choristers. He was "high church" and we had many Guild of the Sanctuary of Servers services at St. Andrews, in many cases sung by the then organist at St. Andrews, Reginald Sheward, who walked from Wick to Hampton every Sunday. Just before leaving St. Andrews Bernard assisted Revd. Harris at our wedding and gave us communion. Frances was his secretary during his time at St. Richards.

On leaving Hampton, Bernard joined the Royal Navy and was Chaplain on HMS Ark Royal during the Falklands conflict. I remember him telling us that the most difficult part of his duties was to visit and advise families who lost lives during the conflict. On leaving the Royal Navy Bernard was appointed to a small parish near Newbury and was Padre to Newbury racecourse.

25th Anniversary of 9/11

The Revd Paul Hardingham looks back on that terrible morning 25 years ago this month...

Twenty-five years ago, on Tuesday 11th September 2001, terrorist attacks demolished the Twin Towers in New York. They killed 2,996 people and injured more than 6,000. Events like 9/11 raise the inevitable question: *Why does God allow such suffering to take place?*

There are no easy answers to this question! We cannot fully understand why such things happen, although we live in a fallen world, where people make real choices. Yet the Bible affirms that God identifies with our suffering, supremely when Jesus experienced suffering and death.

It is on the Cross that God knows what it is to lose a loved one in an unjust attack. *'I could never myself believe in God if it were not for the Cross. In the real world of pain, how could one worship a God who was immune to it?'* (John Stott). What does this mean? We cannot know why God allows evil and suffering to continue, but we do know that He does love and care for us: *'For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.'* (John 3:16). God loved us enough to fully engage with the mess of the world.

We also can view such events in the light of resurrection. Jesus said: *'I am the Resurrection and the Life. The one who believes in Me will live'* (John 11:25). Resurrection points to the restoration for us of the life we lost. New heavens and new earth point to a world and relationships restored and perfected! In *The Lord of the Rings*, Sam Gamgee exclaims: *'Gandalf! I thought you were dead! But then I thought I was dead! Is everything sad going to come untrue?'* The answer of the Bible is Yes!

Sudoku Solutions (from p17)

Easy Sudoku

7	3	1	5	4	8	9	6	2
6	4	8	9	3	2	7	1	5
9	2	5	1	6	7	4	8	3
1	7	2	4	8	9	3	5	6
4	9	3	6	2	5	1	7	8
5	8	6	7	1	3	2	9	4
2	5	7	8	9	4	6	3	1
3	6	9	2	5	1	8	4	7
8	1	4	3	7	6	5	2	9

Medium Sudoku

5	3	4	7	1	2	8	9	6
7	9	6	3	8	5	2	1	4
8	1	2	6	9	4	5	3	7
3	4	5	9	7	8	6	2	1
1	7	8	2	6	3	9	4	5
2	6	9	4	5	1	7	8	3
4	5	3	8	2	6	1	7	9
9	2	1	5	4	7	3	6	8
6	8	7	1	3	9	4	5	2



For the Bereaved & Lonely
Re-launch of 2C's Teas

Sunday 27 September

2.30 – 4.30pm

St Andrew's Church Meeting Room

All Welcome

Government consultation on weddings proposes greater flexibility and cheaper options

Couples will soon be able to marry almost anywhere, including forests, beaches, cruise ships at sea, canal boats, and at home, under Government proposals that “shift the focus from bricks and mortar to people and promises”.

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is to consult on plans to allow “authorised officiants” of any religion or belief to conduct weddings, in what are being described as the most radical changes to marriage law in England and Wales since the 19th century.

The Government says, however, that the “permanence” of marriage will be strengthened by enabling more questioning of candidates before their weddings.

“To protect against forced, predatory and sham marriages, couples must complete a two-stage process, including in-person interview, to verify their identity and demonstrate eligibility to marry.”

Anglican banns of marriage would continue “as an important part of the established Church”, the document says.

It continues: “The Government agrees with the Law Commission’s recommendation that Anglican weddings should continue to be conducted as they are now. It recognises the unique role of the Church of England and the Church [in] Wales in relation to marriage and has no plans to alter . . . these roles.”

About 470,000 people marry in England and Wales each year. Anglican weddings are generally required to take place in a church or chapel, although they can take place in a private home by special licence.

Evesham Festival of Words

'Flog It' battles 'Bargain Hunt' with Robert Arley



Flog It and Bargain Hunt are two incredibly popular TV programmes. We probably all think we could spot a real bargain or wish we had a hidden gem lurking in our attics.

Speaker, Robert Arley, worked as a scriptwriter, researcher, producer and director for ITV and the BBC. He also briefly worked in Hollywood for Columbia Pictures. In this talk he will explain how clever contrivances and taxing schedules engineer unlikely candidates and dodgy collectibles into happy daytime viewing.

Thursday, 10 September 2026 2.30pm - 4.30pm - Richmond Villages, Woodnorton

Tickets £10.00

info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org

'Flog It' battles 'Bargain Hunt' with Robert Arley

Max Hunt's illustrated talk intertwines the stories of Herbert Austin and William Morris – the two giants of Britain's early motor industry. Tracing the rise of both men from humble beginnings, Max shows how their contrasting approaches to car manufacture brought motoring to the masses in the 1920s while, at the same time, laying the foundations for the troubles of the British Motor Corporation and British Leyland. Along the way he examines the social impact of the Longbridge works on north Worcestershire and the huge extent of Morris's philanthropy – the English Bill Gates!

Wednesday, 30 September 2026 7.00pm - 8.0pm - Ecgwin's Club, Evesham

Tickets £11.00

info@eveshamfestivalofwords.org

Coffee Club Cuppa, Cake and Chat Hampton Farm Shop Every Tuesday 2pm - 3pm £2.50 a cup

This group aims to give those in the local community who are new to the parish, a chance to come together for an informal chat, and make new friends with help from people from the Church community.

Or just come along to enjoy the company of others.

Rev. Shellie Ward and Elaine Major LLM



JOHN MARTIN'S CHARITY

(Registered Charity No: 527473)

FURTHER/HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 – 2027

The Charity is pleased to invite Students to apply for an Education Grant.

To qualify for a grant, you must meet the required age as of 1 September 2026

You must also be a permanent resident of the TOWN OF EVESHAM or, if living away from home during term time, maintain a residential address in the TOWN.

All applicants must provide documentation to evidence their residency.

Applicants aged 25 and over are also subject to a financial assessment.

The categories are as follows:

- CATEGORY A:** HND, Degree level and Postgraduate courses at a University or College. Full or part time. (Level 4 HNC courses are only considered if they qualify for Student Finance)
Age: 18 to state retirement age.
- CATEGORY C:** Part-time vocational or educational courses, below degree level must be classed as a part time course by the educational establishment and can be part of a modern apprenticeship/day release scheme. Courses must run for 3 terms or equivalent (60 hours minimum over an academic year). Recreational courses are excluded.
Age: 16 to state retirement age.
- CATEGORY D:** Vocational courses towards a Degree at the Open University or a Degree level distance learning course
Age: 18 to state retirement age.

Applications can be made online from www.johnmartins.org

Application periods will close at **1pm** on the following dates.
Late applications will not be considered under any circumstances.

CATEGORY A	31 October 2026
CATEGORY C	30 June 2027
CATEGORY D	31 March 2027

John Martin's Charity, 16 Queen's Road, Evesham, WR11 4JN

Tel: 01386 765440 email: enquiries@johnmartins.org.uk

**Please ensure that you provide the required supporting documentation with
your Application Form**

The full terms and conditions are available on our website

Great & Little Hampton Education Charity Registered Charity No 702528 Trustees Report for the year 2025/2026

Trustees who served in the year

- Tracy Dresch 15 Nov 2021 (Co-opted)
- Sam Bastow 01 June 2025 (Worcs County Council)
- Peter Scurfield 01 June 2025 (Worcs County Council)
- Craig Jennings 15 Nov 2023 (Evesham Town Council)
- Margaret Thomson 4 Nov 2020 (Co-opted)
- Clerk 04 June 2025 (Ex-Officio for Hampton Parish Church) Mrs Liz Shephard

The Great & Little Hampton Education Charity exists to provide financial support, at the Trustees discretion, to residents of the Parish who are under the age of 25 and engaged in education or an apprenticeship. The Charity can be contacted via email on hamptoneducationcharity@gmail.com.

There are 5 trustees who meet 2 or 3 times a year. At our meeting in November we consider the main batch of applications for grants from students and decide how best to disburse the bulk of our income. We meet again in January/February to consider any special business which may have arisen, and we hold our AGM in May/June. This year the January/February meeting did not run as there had been no special business for consideration.

Report

The Charity made 26 grants during the year 2025-26 totalling £1,900 varying in value of £50 to £100 depending on what level they were studying and whether they were based at home or living away from home.

The application form and advertising poster were sent to the local schools, colleges and universities. An advert was also placed on the Evesham Noticeboard Facebook page. The application form was also emailed to all previous applicants.

The balance of the investment fund at the end of March 2026 was £105,416.71. There was no change to the investment strategy although additional units were purchased in November 2025.

The Chair of trustees for the year was Craig Jennings. Tracy Dresch, Peter Scurfield and Margaret Thomson continued to serve as Trustees and Sam Bastow joined as Worcestershire County Council trustee replacing Emma Stokes.

Mrs Liz Shephard continued as Clerk. The trustees have appreciated the efficiency of her work.

Looking ahead we can be confident that because of the priority of the trustees in the past to safeguard the fund for future students and apprentices of Hampton Parish, that we will be in a position to fulfil the aims of the charity for many years to come.

Craig Jennings

Chair

Great & Little Hampton Education Charity

Registered Charity No. 702528

Further & Higher Education and Training Awards Academic Year 2026-2027

**Applications are invited by students who are under the age of 25,
and who reside in the Parish of Great and Little Hampton, Evesham,
and are undertaking higher or further education
(including A-Level and Apprenticeship)**

**Application forms are available via email from the Clerk to the Trustees at:
hamptoneducationcharity@gmail.com**

**Alternatively, a hard copy can be requested by sending a SAE to:
Clerk to the Trustees**

**Great and Little Hampton Educational Charity
19 Steppes Piece, Bidford on Avon, Warwickshire, B50 4AT**

Closing date for completed applications is 31 October 2026

Late applications will not be considered under any circumstances

***All grants are made at the discretion of the Trustees**

New Royal Mail solar-powered digital post-boxes

Royal Mail has converted about 3,500 of the old trusty red post-boxes into digital affairs, out of the 115,000 post-boxes in the country.

The new solar-powered digital post-boxes feature a solar panel roof, a built-in barcode scanner, and an extra-large drawer that accepts parcels up to shoebox size.

The idea is that the solar panels on top capture sunlight to power the digital scanner and automated drawer mechanism. So, then all you have to do is to scan the 2D barcode on your pre-paid parcel label, using the box's scanner to automatically open the large drawer.

The traditional letter slot remains, for regular stamped mail.

As for proof of posting? You use the Royal Mail app on your phone to track and request confirmation when you drop off an item.

If you don't want to download an app or use a printer, the good news is that you can still send your parcels as before, at a post office counter.

Sudoku – Easy

	3			4	8	9		2
		8		3			1	5
		5			7		8	
1	7	2	4				5	
4								8
	8				3	2	9	4
	5		8			6		
3	6			5		8		
8		4	3	7			2	

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Sudoku - Medium

	3				2			6
7	9			8		2		
8								
		5					2	
		8	2		3	9		
	6					7		
								9
		1		4			6	8
6			1				5	

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Solutions on page 11

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Angela Fitch
PHOTOGRAPHY

www.angelaatchphotography.co.uk
07585 904636

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

Wednesday 2	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
6 September – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity			
	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
	10am	Morning Praise	Hampton
Exodus 12.1-14; Romans 13.8-end; Matthew 18.15-20			
Monday 7	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 9	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 9	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
13 September – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity			
	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
	10am	Parish Eucharist	Hampton
Exodus 14.19-end; Romans 14.1-12; Matthew 18.21-35			
Monday 14	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 16	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 16	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
20 September – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity			
	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
	10am	Morning Praise	Hampton
	3pm	Holy Baptism	Hampton
Exodus 16.2-15; Philippians 1.21-end; Matthew 20.1-16			
Monday 21	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 23	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 23	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton
27 September – Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity			
	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
Solemn Mass	10am	Patrick Wooster Anniversary	Hampton
Exodus 17.1-7; Philippians 2.1-13; Matthew 21.23-32			
Monday 28	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 30	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 30	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2026

4 October – Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity			
	8am	Holy Communion	Hampton
	10am	Morning Praise	Hampton
Monday 5	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 7	9.15am	Morning Prayer	Hampton
Wednesday 7	10am	Holy Communion	Hampton

Merstow Green Funeral Home



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