

# NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISH OF CALNE & BLACKLAND



*... keeping you in touch  
with your church family.  
July 2026*

## Parish contact details

**Team Rector:**

**The Reverend Caspar Bush**

Email:

caspar.bush@mardenvale.org.uk

Telephone:

01249 914364 (day off Monday)

**Team Vicar:**

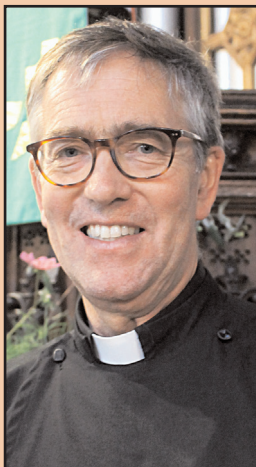
**The Reverend Sarah Errington**

(available on Sunday, Tuesday,  
Wednesday and Thursday)

Email:

sarah.errington@mardenvale.org.uk

Tel: 01249 263430



**Parish Administration:**

Church House, 30 Church Street, Calne, SN11 0HU Tel: 01249 816522

Email: enquiries@mardenvale.org.uk

*Church House is open from 10.00am to 12noon  
on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.*

## *Prayer for July*

*Lord, through every trial and hardship,  
you are good. I pray for wisdom and guidance,  
peace and patience, that not my will but  
yours be done. Grant me understanding when  
the outcome does not go my way.*

*Remind me that your plans are far better  
than my own.*

*Amen.*

### **Church addresses**

Holy Trinity Church, Quemerford, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 0AR

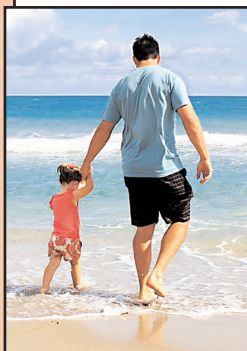
St Mary's Church, Church Street, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 0HU

St Peter's Church, Blackland, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8UQ

**Website: <https://www.mardenvale.org.uk>**

**Find us on facebook @stmaryschurchcalne**

Cover picture by Alex Grenfell



# Thought for July

**“We’re throwing a festival in a field and you’re invited!”**

**H**ave you ever been to a Christian Festival? I don’t mean the annual Festivals of the Christian calendar, such as Christmas, Easter or Pentecost. I mean the events such as Spring Harvest or Greenbelt, at which people gather from across the country, to worship together, hear some great speakers, and maybe get involved in activities which are part of the programme.

*These events are a great opportunity to be encouraged and challenged in our faith, but they can be expensive, and/or mean travelling a long way.*



But did you know that there’s a Christian Festival here within our own Benefice? Eden Bridge Festival took place for the first time last year,

and it’s back for 2026! Eden Bridge is a family-focussed Christian Music Festival, which takes place in a field. Everyone is welcome – whether you’re firmly rooted in church life, exploring faith for the first time, or somewhere in between. Tickets are free (but you do need to book, as there’s a limit on numbers). There’s plenty of children’s activities – crafts, bouncy castle, a drum workshop, and more. A variety of groups will be leading worship throughout the day, and a prayer tent, food and drink will be available. It’s all happening on Saturday 22nd August, 11.00am to 6.00pm at Wick Bridge Farm, Bremhill. More details, and a link to book tickets, are available online:

<https://www.edenbridge.love/>, or look out for leaflets which will be in churches soon. I’ll look forward to seeing you there!

*One field. One faith.*

*One joyful noise.*

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord,  
all the earth!*

*Serve the Lord with gladness!*

*Come into his presence with  
singing!*

*(Psalm 100:1-2)*

*With prayers and best wishes,*

*Revd Sarah Errington*

*(email address see page two)*

# Project 2026 Update – Good Progress!

**B**ack in 2025, when the project to improve facilities in St Mary's Church was first suggested, a number of issues were identified and improvements planned. This included installing a toilet, improving access to the North door, updating the 'kitchen' facilities, installing solar panels, moving the font and redecorating the South chapel and transept, as well as removing some pews to create more space for events. The initial estimates for the cost of these works from our architects was £650,000 – a large amount of money but hopefully achievable. A lot of work has been done on fundraising and we have made great progress.

The Salisbury Diocese has agreed to release £222,000 from some endowments to the Parish of Calne and Blackland.

Local fundraising has provided £21,615 from donations and fundraising events

Major fundraisers have given £84,723 (this includes any donations over £1,000).

Together with some promised support with works we have a total of £343,338. This money will be split into 2 parts with some going towards phase 1 (£210,667) and some going towards phase 2 (£42,750).

We are also anticipating some funding from charitable grants to make up the shortfall in funds, with applications about to be submitted.

Another area of progress is that we have general approval from the

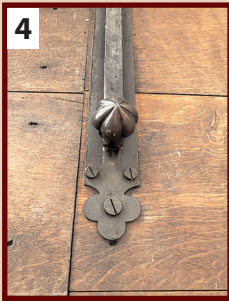
Diocese for the changes that we want to make and are ready to submit the detailed formal application for a 'faculty', which is needed before we start work.

Sadly, it is the way of the world that costs increase and we have recently been advised that we will need to spend over £1million to cover every aspect of the work. This means that the Parochial Church Council has reviewed the plan and the work has been split into 2 phases.

Phase 1 will include the toilets, the improved access, the kitchen, moving the font and putting limestone tiles on the floor at the west end of the building, costing £418,825.

Phase 2 will cover repairs to the South chapel and vestry roofs, decorating the South Chapel and transept and general repairs. These items will cost about £100,000 and that does not cover the employment of a community engagement officer, fitting solar panels and professional fees (architects). Phase 2 will be the subject of a grant application to the Heritage Lottery Fund and we will need to demonstrate that we have a good 'deposit' towards this cost. Although we are optimistic, income from grants is not guaranteed so any donation that you feel able to make will be a great contribution to the success of our project, your continued support is very much needed. The expectation is that we will be able to start work early in 2027 with phase 1 completed by Christmas 2027.

# How Well Do You Know Your Church?



Write in the space under each picture where you think each item can be found. (Check the answers on page 7.)

# Calne Mothers' Union

Calne MU met on the 9th June at 7.30pm for a fun evening organised for us by Jane Wells. We began the evening in St Mary's Church with prayer and then set off to complete a 'mystery styled treasure hunt.' There was a choice of two trails, one around the interior of the church and another a little further afield around the local area. We all agreed that despite living in Calne for years we all discovered things that we had previously not noticed.

The enjoyable evening was rounded off with sharing our answers and frustration with a particularly tricky worded question and a celebratory

cuppa and birthday cake to mark the birthdays of two members.

Looking ahead our next meetings are:

Tuesday 14th July, 2.00pm – a tea party to celebrate 150 years of the MU movement, in St Mary's Church.

Monday 10th August, 2.30pm – Mary Sumner Day Service in St Mary's Church.

Tuesday 8th September, 7.30pm – a talk entitled 'Married to the Cloth' from Rosie Ringrose. The venue to be in church house.

All are welcome to join us for any of these meetings.

*Alison Keighley*

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## Barn Dance

On 6th June over 70 people gathered in Calne Town Hall to dance the night away! Caspar turned out to be an experienced barn dance caller, the refreshments were provided in the form of pasties from local business 'The Pasty

Cove' and Carolyn Burleson-Webb organised a very successful 'silent auction of promises'. The items for auction ranged from home-made cakes to the chance to fly in a light aircraft. The amount raised by the evening was over £2,000 towards Project 2026.

We have also had the good news that Calne Lions have agreed to donate £1,000 towards the cost of installing a disabled access toilet in St Mary's.



# Dates for your diary

- 1st 2.00 – 3.30pm Bereavement Café at St Mary’s Church.  
3rd Feast day of St Thomas, Apostle.  
4th 7.30pm Calne Choral Summer Concert. Tickets £15.  
10th 5.00pm – 7.00pm Young Voices Choir, Summer Sing.  
14th 2.00pm MU – afternoon tea.  
16th 7.30pm – Calne and Blackland PCC.  
17th 6.30pm – St Mary’s Choir, Summer Soiree.  
22nd Feast Day of St Mary Magdalene.  
25th Feast Day of St James, Apostle.  
25th Calne Bike Meet – Events in St Mary’s Church.
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## Focus for Prayer

Please remember to pray for ...

- Everyone preparing to enjoy summer holidays.
- People leaving school and further education to enter work.
- Our local councillors and their work for the community.
- People who are seeking employment and having difficulty.
- People throughout the world living with war, terrorism or social unrest.

### *Answers to Church items on page 5*

1. Virgin Mary, right hand side, second up from the bottom, screen behind altar.
2. End of pew leading up to the pulpit.
3. Above doorway into kitchen area.
4. Bolt on West Door.
5. On side carved screen to kitchen, look up.
6. Candlestick by lectern.
7. Carving nearest altar rail on right hand side of side seats.
8. St Edmund’s Chapel, Reredos.
9. On pew ends throughout church.

### **Editorial Team:**

**Jane Ridgwell and Jack Robinson.**

Illustration, Graphic Design and Layout: **Alex Grenfell.**

### ***And finally ...***

If you organise any groups or events in the parish and would like them to be included in this newsletter then get in touch with the editors.

We would also love to have articles about the different groups in the parish to spread the word more widely and encourage people to come along.

Please email or give copies of items to us in plenty of time for the next newsletter, the deadline is 10th of the preceding month.

**email: [cbp.news.editor@gmail.com](mailto:cbp.news.editor@gmail.com)**



# Regular Activities in the Parish

\*Please check Website or Parish Notices for Zoom Link.

Day	Time	Place	Activity
Sunday	8.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion (NOT 4th Sunday of the month).
	9.30am	St Peter's	Holy Communion (BCP) – (4th Sunday of the month).
	10.00am	Church House	Sunday Club for 4–11s. (1st Sunday of the month)
		St Mary's	Parish Eucharist (4th Sunday of the month; Morning Praise).
	10.00am	Holy Trinity	Family Service (3rd Sunday of the month).
	10.45am	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion (4th Sunday of the month).
Monday	10.00am	Church House	Mary Makers Craft Group
Tuesday	10.00am	Church House	SMUF's parent and toddler group. Only during term times.
Wednesday	10.00am	St Mary's	Holy Communion (Mothers' Union Corporate Service 1st Wednesday of the month).
Friday	8.30 am	Zoom	Morning Prayers – Whole Benefice*
	6.30pm	St Mary's	Choir Practice.
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing	Please contact Jane Ridgwell for further information.

*IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A DONATION  
to the Parish of Calne and Blackland you can use this QR code*

**£5**

Donate

**£10**

Donate

**£20**

Donate



Choose your own amount