

SPOKES


SPEAKING TO AND FOR ALL OUR CHURCHES

SEPTEMBER 2025

Hi folks,

This may not seem an obvious photo: it's a field with a few sparse maize plants, with a rather fetching swathe of flowering field bindweed in the distance. But there are other stories that can be told.



It makes one realise  that it's a hard a job for farmers to pick the right crop at the start of the season, without knowing the weather ahead – especially with the uncertainties introduced by climate change. As it happens there was a good barley harvest from the neighbouring field. There's an increasing need for drought-resistant crops, able to withstand the reality of a warming climate.

I took the photo partly because this scene also reminded me of photos that are used to illustrate drought in parts of Africa. 46 million people were affected by the drought in the Horn of Africa from 2020 to 2023 – and this summer is affecting countries like Egypt and Sudan in the north and Angola and Zambia towards the south particularly badly.

Global warming is not just a problem for countries far away – but for us as well. We need to let photos like this one remind us that we’re all connected by this global problem – so that we need to be taking our share of responsibility. If you pray, pray that we do exactly that – and pray for wisdom as to the steps we need to take to alleviate these global issues.

Every blessing,
Rich Tweedy
vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk

HARVEST IN THE POLDEN WHEEL

Sunday	14 Sept	11.00	Harvest Informal Worship <i>followed by harvest lunch</i>	Ashcott
Saturday	20 Sept	12.00	Harvest Lunch	Edington
Saturday	27 Sept	12.30	Harvest Lunch	Burtle
Sunday	28 Sept	11.00	Harvest Informal Worship	Burtle
Saturday	4 Oct	12.00	Harvest 'Soup and Pud'	Catcott
Sunday	5 Oct	9.30	Harvest Holy Communion	Catcott
Sunday	5 Oct	11.00	Harvest Informal Worship	Chilton Polden
Sunday	26 Oct	11.00	Harvest Informal Worship	Edington

Harvest Collections



This year's **Polden Wheel Harvest** charity is the **Trussell Trust Foodbank** in Bridgwater. Gifts and donations will be accepted at our **Harvest Celebrations** in our churches and envelopes will be available. Items currently needed are tinned meat, tinned veg, long life milk, cereals, toilet rolls and washing up liquid.



Men's breakfast

Saturday 20th September 08:45

at The Crown, Catcott.

Full cooked breakfast with tea, coffee and toast.

Speaker will be David Herring.

Church Contacts

Vicar:	Rev Rich Tweedy	01458 210260
	vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk	<i>Day off: Friday</i>
Parish Administrator:	Sue Ball	01458 210260
	admin@poldenwheel.co.uk	<i>Office hours: Tues – Thurs 10am – 2pm</i>
PCC Treasurer:	Caroline Snell	Treasurer@poldenwheel.co.uk
All Saints, Ashcott:	John Harvey	01458 210562
St. Philip & St James, Burtle:	Alison Everett	01278 723736
St Peter's, Catcott:	Martin Melia	01278 722808
St Edward's, Chilton Polden:	Vacant	
St George's, Edington:	Rosie Tilbury	01278 722208
St Mary's, Shapwick:	Vacant	

Website: www.poldenwheel.co.uk

Church Services

Sunday 7th September Trinity 12 (Green)

9.30 *Catcott* Holy Communion (BCP)
11.00 *Chilton Polden* Informal Worship

Sunday 14th September Trinity 13 (Green)

9.30 *Burtle* Holy Communion
11.00 *Ashcott* Harvest Informal Worship*
6.30 *Edington* Holy Communion

Sunday 21st September Trinity 14 (Green)

10.00 *Shapwick* Café Church
10:30 *Chilton Polden* Holy Communion
4.00 *Catcott* Service for Peace **

Sunday 28th September Trinity 15 (Green)

9.30 *Shapwick* Holy Communion
11.00 *Burtle* Harvest Informal Worship*
6.30 *Ashcott* Holy Communion

Sunday 5th October Trinity 16 (Green)

9.30 *Catcott* Harvest Holy Communion
11.00 *Chilton Polden* Harvest Informal Worship*

* *With Polden Praise*

** *Refreshments served at 3.30pm*

Readings

Sept 7: Philemon 1.1-21; Luke 13.25-33

Sept 14: 1 Timothy 1.12-17; Luke 15.1-10

Sept 21: 1 Timothy 2.1-7; Luke 16.1-13

Sept 28: 1 Timothy 6.6-19; Luke 16.19-31



Service of Quiet

**Tuesday
September 16th
at 7pm in
Catcott church**

This will be a quiet space for contemplative reflection for half an hour.

A Service for Peace

**At St Peter's Church,
Catcott**

**21st Sept
at 4pm**



A meditative service
marking the UN
International Day of Peace

Refreshments at 3.30pm

Midweek Holy Communion



**Wed 24th September
at 10 am
in Edington Church.**

All are welcome at any or all of the following church events:

September

- Wed 3rd **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 6th **Edington:** St George's coffee morning at Autumn House, Manor Road, Edington, TA7 9HB. 10.30 – noon. Entry £2. Bring and buy and raffle
- Wed 10th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Fri 12th **Chilton Polden:** Family Bingo in the Church Hall. Eyes down 7.30pm. £1 per book. Raffle and refreshments
- Sun 14th **Ashcott:** Ploughman's lunch in All Saints church after the Harvest Informal Worship service which starts at 11am.
- Wed 17th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Fri 19th **Catcott:** St Peter's Coffee Morning at 5, Manor Road, Catcott TA7 9HT. 10.30 – 12. Suggested donation £2 for tea/coffee and cake. Raffle.
- Sat 20th **Catcott:** Men's Breakfast at the Crown, Catcott at 8.45am. Speaker will be David Herring. ***Please book your place by contacting Rich.***
- Sat 20th **Edington:** St George's Harvest Lunch 12-2. Tickets £12 from Rosie Tilbury on 01278 722208 or rosemary.tilbury@btinternet.com.
- Wed 24th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome.
- Fri 26th **Edington:** St George's McMillan Tea 2pm in Edington Village Hall.
- Sat 27th **Burtle:** Harvest Lunch in Burtle Village Hall 12.30 for 1pm. Bar and Raffle. Tickets £15; available from Rosemary on 01278 723321.
- Sat 27th **Ashcott:** Concert with Glastonbury Male Voice choir at 7.30pm in the church followed by ploughman's supper in the village hall. Tickets £20 from Debbie Shingler on 01458 210947. Proceeds will be split between the church and the village hall.

October

- Wed 1st **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Sat 4th **Ashcott:** Big breakfast in the village hall. 9-11am. £10 (children half price) for full English, cereals, juice and as much coffee and toast as you want.
- Sat 4th **Catcott:** St Peter's 'Soup and a Pud'. A light Harvest lunch with a choice of soups and puds to suit all tastes and dietary requirements, at the village hall, Edington. 12 till 2pm with food served at 12.30pm. Tickets £5. Please book with Corinne on 01278 723060.
- Sun 5th **Catcott:** St Peter's Harvest Collection for the Foodbank. Please bring donations to the church between 11am and 4pm.